

Special Publication No. 03-03

Overview of State-Codified Youth-Only Fishing Waters

by

Lisa Olson

February 2003

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Sport Fish



Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used in Division of Sport Fish Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications without definition. All others must be defined in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables and in figures or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)		General		Mathematics, statistics, fisheries	
centimeter	cm	All commonly accepted abbreviations.	e.g., Mr., Mrs., a.m., p.m., etc.	alternate hypothesis	H _A
deciliter	dL	All commonly accepted professional titles.	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.	base of natural logarithm	e
gram	g	and	&	catch per unit effort	CPUE
hectare	ha	at	@	coefficient of variation	CV
kilogram	kg	Compass directions:		common test statistics	F, t, χ^2 , etc.
kilometer	km			confidence interval	C.I.
liter	L			correlation coefficient	R (multiple)
meter	m	east	E	correlation coefficient	r (simple)
metric ton	mt	north	N	covariance	cov
milliliter	ml	south	S	degree (angular or temperature)	°
millimeter	mm	west	W	degrees of freedom	df
Weights and measures (English)		Copyright	©	divided by	÷ or / (in equations)
cubic feet per second	ft ³ /s	Corporate suffixes:		equals	=
foot	ft	Company	Co.	expected value	E
gallon	gal	Corporation	Corp.	fork length	FL
inch	in	Incorporated	Inc.	greater than	>
mile	mi	Limited	Ltd.	greater than or equal to	≥
ounce	oz	et alii (and other people)	et al.	harvest per unit effort	HPUE
pound	lb	et cetera (and so forth)	etc.	less than	<
quart	qt	exempli gratia (for example)	e.g.,	less than or equal to	≤
yard	yd	id est (that is)	i.e.,	logarithm (natural)	ln
Spell out acre and ton.		latitude or longitude	lat. or long.	logarithm (base 10)	log
Time and temperature		monetary symbols (U.S.)	\$, ¢	logarithm (specify base)	log ₂ , etc.
day	d	months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan, ..., Dec	mid-eye-to-fork	MEF
degrees Celsius	°C	number (before a number)	# (e.g., #10)	minute (angular)	'
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	pounds (after a number)	# (e.g., 10#)	multiplied by	x
hour (spell out for 24-hour clock)	h	registered trademark	®	not significant	NS
minute	min	trademark	™	null hypothesis	H ₀
second	s	United States (adjective)	U.S.	percent	%
Spell out year, month, and week.		United States of America (noun)	USA	probability	P
Physics and chemistry		U.S. state and District of Columbia abbreviations	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, DC)	probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
all atomic symbols				probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
alternating current	AC			second (angular)	"
ampere	A			standard deviation	SD
calorie	cal			standard error	SE
direct current	DC			standard length	SL
hertz	Hz			total length	TL
horsepower	hp			variance	Var
hydrogen ion activity	pH				
parts per million	ppm				
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰				
volts	V				
watts	W				

SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 03-03

OVERVIEW OF STATE-CODIFIED YOUTH-ONLY FISHING WATERS

by

Lisa Olson
Division of Sport Fish, Anchorage

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Sport Fish, Research and Technical Services
333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska, 99518-1599

February 2003

Development of this manuscript was partially financed by the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777-777K) under Project Numbers F-31-13 and F-31-14, Job Numbers F-31-13b and F-31-14b.

The Special Publications series was established in 1991 for the publication of techniques and procedures manuals, informational pamphlets, special subject reports to decision-making bodies, symposia and workshop proceedings, application software documentation, in-house lectures, and other documents that do not fit in another publication series of the Division of Sport Fish. Special Publications are intended for fishery and other technical professionals. Special Publications are available through the Alaska State Library and on the Internet: <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/statewide/divreports/html/intersearch.cfm> This publication has undergone editorial and peer review.

Lisa Olson

*Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish
333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99518-1599, USA*

This document should be cited as:

Olson, Lisa. 2003. Overview of state-codified youth-only fishing waters. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 03-03, Anchorage.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203 or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

For information on alternative formats for this and other department publications, please contact the department ADA Coordinator at (voice) 907-465-4120, (TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-2440.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF APPENDICES	ii
ABSTRACT	1
INTRODUCTION	1
Overview of Current Alaska Codification.....	1
What Can the Commissioner Do?.....	1
What Can the Board of Fisheries Do?	1
What Can Federal, State, and Local Land Management Agencies Do?.....	2
What is the Role of the State Hatcheries?	2
METHODS	2
Criteria Determining Inclusion as “Youth-Only”	2
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	3
Characteristics of Youth-Only Waters	3
Youth-Only or Family-Only?	4
Resource Characteristics of Special Population Waters	4
Challenges Facing Management or Enforcement Agencies	5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	5
APPENDIX A. STATE-BY-STATE INVENTORY OF YOUTH-ONLY WATERS	7

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix	Page
A1. State-by-state inventory of youth-only waters, contact information, codified regulations, and other special legislation and outreach programs.....	8

ABSTRACT

In order to investigate the feasibility of establishing youth-only fishing waters in the State of Alaska, we inventoried other states' youth-only programs and legislation. Information was gathered by examining a collection of other states' printed regulation summaries and searching websites of each of the 49 states. All state natural resource agencies were then contacted by telephone to confirm printed regulation summaries and website findings.

Twenty-seven states have youth-only fishing waters codified by the natural resource management agency into regulation or statute. In addition, many states allow either local government agencies, local land management agencies, such as counties or municipalities, or local sportsmen's groups to buy hatchery fish to stock ponds or waterways which may then be designated for use by special populations of anglers, usually some combination of youth, seniors, and/or handicapped individuals. The challenges agencies face in designating youth-only waters revolve around the fact that stocked fish and access sites are paid for by all anglers, and thus some anglers feel that everyone should have the same opportunity to use these products. Overall, however, every natural resource agency reported that opposition to special youth-only areas was limited. Many state resource managers characterized enforcement as problematic, primarily due to lack of available enforcement personnel. The most commonly-reported enforcement problem was adults fishing in youth-only areas and overharvest by youth.

Key words: Youth-only, youth fishing, kid's fishing, family fishing, state codified.

INTRODUCTION

In order to begin to investigate the feasibility of establishing youth-only fishing waters in the State of Alaska, information was needed on other states' youth-only areas. This report inventories other states' youth-only areas, and provides basic information about the background of such legislation in other states.

OVERVIEW OF CURRENT ALASKA CODIFICATION

Neither Alaska statute nor the Alaska Administrative Code specifically endows the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) or the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) with the power to create an area restricted to fishing by a special population that consists of youth.

WHAT CAN THE COMMISSIONER DO?

Alaska statutes 16.05.020 and 16.05.050 invests the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game with the powers, among other things, "...to design and construct projects beneficial for the fish and game resources of the state, and to provide public facilities where necessary or proper to facilitate the taking of fish or game, and to enter into cooperative agreements with individuals, groups, or agencies, in the public interest." To date, the commissioner has not exercised these powers to create special population fishing areas or facilities.

WHAT CAN THE BOARD OF FISHERIES DO?

Alaska statute specifically states that the Board may adopt regulations for Alaska residents 60 years and older (AS 16.05.251). Among other things, the Board of Fisheries may also set apart fish reserve areas, refuges, and sanctuaries (subject to the approval of the legislature); allocate resources; establish open and closed seasons and areas if consistent with resource conservation and development goals; promulgate regulations governing the use of watersheds; and regulate the conservation, development, and utilization of fisheries by both resident and non-resident anglers. Regulations must be consistent with sustained yield and provide a fair and reasonable opportunity for the taking of fishery resources by personal use, sport, and commercial fishermen. To date, the board has not exercised these powers to establish a special population fishing area, or to restrict a certain area to special populations of anglers.

WHAT CAN FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES DO?

Managers of federal refuges have the power to regulate the taking of fish and wildlife on their lands, including setting aside areas for special populations. The Kenai National Wildlife Refuge has set aside a portion of the Kenai River for handicapped-only, mobility-impaired anglers.

Alaska statute gives power to municipalities "...to acquire, manage, control, use, and dispose of real and personal property, and to expend money for a community purpose, facility, or service for the good of the municipality (29.35.010)." Similar powers are granted to boroughs. To date neither the Municipality of Anchorage nor the Matanuska-Susitna Borough have exercised their power to control property in order to allow only youths to access waterways.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE STATE HATCHERIES?

Hatcheries must be operated in accordance with the fisheries management and production goals of the department, and consistent with any Comprehensive Regional Salmon Plan in place. The Statewide Stocking Plan outlines guidelines for continued and new enhancement projects. In previous years, special events utilizing state hatchery products have limited participation to special populations, specifically youth.

METHODS

Information was gathered by examining a collection of other states' printed regulation summaries, and then by searching the websites of each of the 49 states. All state natural resource agencies were then contacted by telephone to confirm printed regulation summary and website findings. If it appeared that a state did not have a codified youth-only area, then that fact was verified or corrected in the telephone interview. If the state did have youth-only areas, then they were asked about program structure: codification; characteristics of the lake, whether it was enhanced, and if so, with what species; enforcement issues; regulatory process; challenges faced when changing the designation of waters from open-to-all to youth- or family-only; and general information about the success of their youth program.

CRITERIA DETERMINING INCLUSION AS "YOUTH-ONLY"

In order to be considered in this overview as "youth-only," the body of water must be regulated in some way by a state governmental agency as restricting opportunity to a special population or populations that include children.

Many states may have waters that local governments, such as cities or counties, may consider, either informally or by codification, to be open to fishing only by youths (or youths and other special populations). Some states, Alaska included, also have waters that are youth-only during certain events, such as state fairs or sportsmen's shows.

A few states target youth through an "Urban Fishing" program, which, although technically open to all, strongly recruits youth anglers. Agency staff teach clinics on everything from habitat to knot tying. Central Illinois, for example, has 27 areas stocked with hybrid sunfish *Lepomis* and channel catfish *Ictalurus punctatus*, in which they run two clinics per day from Monday through Friday in the summer. Other Illinois regions run the same schedule of clinics. The majority of participants are youth accompanied by an older member of the family.

In some states where they do not have state or local youth-only areas, a special series of stockings is publicized, targeted at youth and families. Technically, anyone who is licensed may fish at these sites, but they are advertised for families, or a small area is roped off, and it is

understood that the area is for youth-only fishing. And some states, like Oregon, list waters highly recommended for families based on the high catch rates and ease of accessibility.

This overview, however, mainly focuses on waters that are designated for youth populations at the state level through regulation or statute. See the Colorado information in the Appendix for an example of a county-designated youth-only water.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following 27 states have youth-only fishing waters codified by the natural resource management agency into regulation or statute:

Arkansas	Georgia	Missouri	Oklahoma	West Virginia
California	Illinois	Montana	Pennsylvania	Wisconsin
Colorado	Kentucky	Nebraska	Rhode Island	Wyoming
Connecticut	Maine	New Hampshire	Tennessee	
Delaware	Maryland	New Mexico	Virginia	
Florida	Mississippi	North Dakota	Washington	

Twenty-two states offer a youth fishing license: Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Six states offer a family fishing license: Arizona, Kentucky, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Wisconsin.

Appendix A contains a detailed state-by-state inventory, including regulatory language, contact information, and website information.

CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH-ONLY WATERS

In addition to the above state-codified youth-only waters, many states allow either local government agencies, local land management agencies, such as counties or municipalities, or local sportsmen's groups to buy hatchery fish to stock ponds or waterways which the land manager then designates for use by special populations of anglers.

In the majority of instances, waters open only to special populations are usually restricted to some combination of youth, seniors and/or handicapped individuals, specifically mobility challenged. Few are truly youth-only.

Impetus for special population designation can come from either the management agency, or from special groups whose charter intends to serve youth, seniors, or handicapped individuals. Pennsylvania, for example, has 29 waterways designated for special populations. In that state, the commissioner has the power to allow a sportsman's group to designate a waterway youth-only, only if the group agrees to be responsible for the administration and control of the area. Thus the group must assist in enforcement, and state enforcement resources are not stretched too thin by trying to patrol all the lakes with special exclusive use designations. By giving control of the fishing area to the special group, Pennsylvania thus somewhat defuses the perception that the state natural resources agency favors one special population over another, or over the general population.

One state, Maine, has some of its youth-only areas set up so that only children may use bait in order to increase catch rates. Maine is also the only state contacted that is under a legislative mandate to create more areas for youth fishing.

Definitions of “youth” range in age from 10 and under to 16 and under.

YOUTH-ONLY OR FAMILY-ONLY?

Several states were considering adopting youth- or family-only waters, or switching from one designation to another. The majority leaning toward codifying areas as family fishing only are reacting to the perception that kids generally don’t go fishing with any other people except their family, and if waters are designated youth-only, then the agencies aren’t really helping recruit future anglers by excluding those responsible for getting the kids out to fish. The question state managers ask is “If the parents are locked out, then is the state agency really creating opportunity, or denying opportunity?” The majority of the regulations in family-only fishing areas stipulate that youths can fish only if accompanied by a non-fishing adult, who usually does not have to purchase a license.

Idaho is close to adopting new regulations designating waterways “Family Fishing” only. One of their species of concern is bass, for which there is a statewide minimum length limit. The agency examined their waterways and identified fish populations that could tolerate a no-length limit harvest to simplify regulations on family lakes. The agency is targeting first time, casual, neophyte anglers that might otherwise be intimidated by size limits or complicated bag limits. The waterways are also in, or close to, either urban areas or popular camping grounds, so the new program would show decent catch rates.

However, one state, Washington, began to move toward family fishing, then found too many violators were almost “renting” kids in order to catch the stocked fish. Washington State is now back to designating waters as youth-only.

In some states that retain youth-only areas, there is no perception that the youth-only waters are underutilized due to lack of family support. Managers say that kids get out of school and bike down to the lakes, or they use the lakes by themselves on the weekends.

RESOURCE CHARACTERISTICS OF SPECIAL POPULATION WATERS

All youth-only waters in this overview are fresh waters. Some are ponds, some are flowing waters. The majority are enhanced. In northern states, the fish of choice is the rainbow trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. In southern states, or in states where there is a serious concern about whirling disease, channel catfish *I. punctatus* are usually stocked. Other warm water stocked fish include bluegill sunfish *Lepomis macrochirus*, other types of sunfish *Lepomis*, brown trout *Salmo trutta*, brook trout *Salvelinus fontinalis*, and largemouth bass *Micropterus salmonides*. Tennessee, for example, often stocks bluegill, because they are easy to catch, and do not hold much interest for the mature angler. Many warmer states initially stocked youth ponds with bluegill and largemouth bass, which are now naturally-reproducing, and supplement these ponds with channel catfish at least once annually.

In some waters native fish are present, but can sustain any fishing pressure brought by youth-only fisheries. The majority of the enhanced waterways are stocked often and with enough fish so that catch rates are high. When waters are stocked with relatively few fish, it is because the youth-only season is a few months, not year-round. In that case, during the rest of the season, the water is open to all anglers with a valid license. Most waters designated for special

populations have other waters nearby that are open to all, with more interesting game fish, so that there is no perception of loss of opportunity, and little competition for game fish.

CHALLENGES FACING MANAGEMENT OR ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The challenges the agencies found in designating youth-only waters revolve around the fact that enhanced fish are paid for by all anglers, and that access sites are also paid for by all anglers, therefore all anglers should have the same opportunity to use these products. Overall, however, every natural resource management agency reported that opposition to special youth-only areas was minimal.

Perceptions of enforcement varied widely from state to state. Many agencies reported that the youth themselves were delighted at the opportunity to “tattle” on the adults. Agencies report that the youth-only areas are well signed. In Colorado and Arkansas, for example, when a waterway is newly designated youth-only, enforcement increases their presence and does not cite adults who are fishing until some time has passed. Community censure was mentioned on more than one occasion as an enforcement method, since many of the ponds were in city parks of smaller communities.

Other state managers often characterized enforcement as problematic, often due to the lack of available enforcement personnel. The most commonly-reported problem was adults fishing in youth-only areas, followed by youth overharvest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report would not be possible without the kind assistance of the many conservation professionals contacted across the USA, who were able to spare a few moments of their busy time to talk a little about youth fishing areas and other youth conservation education efforts. It was a treat to talk with each one, and to find out their perspectives on youth fishing. When available, they are named in the Appendix. And thanks to their patient, curious, courteous, and extremely professional administrative support personnel, who were able to guide me to the correct person.

Thank you also to Nancy Greiner, Information Officer I in Fairbanks, Alaska, for her editorial review of this report.

I would not have been able to make the necessary phone calls without the assistance of Becky DeArmoun and Chuck Brazil. Thanks for covering the front desk and phones.

Product names, if any, used in this publication are included for scientific completeness but do not constitute product endorsement. Other states' programs may be copyrighted or otherwise protected in part or in whole; contact the respective program before reproducing or adapting that information.

**APPENDIX A. STATE-BY-STATE INVENTORY OF YOUTH-
ONLY WATERS**

Appendix A1.-State-by-state inventory of youth-only waters, contact information, codified regulations, and other special legislation and outreach programs.

Alabama	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division (DWFF) 64 N. Union St. Montgomery, AL 36130	(334) 242-3465 www.dcnr.state.al.us/agfd/

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Community Fishing Program – introduce youth to fishing; provide quality family experience; provide accessible angling opportunities; provide or enhance lasting fishing opportunities for anglers of all ages. Partnership with local governments: DWFF provides technical assistance and expertise; local government provides suitable sites, security, and maintenance. Partnerships with local volunteer organizations provide partial funding, manpower, and materials. Sites are specially stocked.
- Youth hunts – turkey, deer, waterfowl; for children under 16 years of age.

Alaska	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Fish and Game Division of Sport Fish, Southcentral Regional Office 333 Raspberry Road Anchorage, Alaska 99518	Lisa Olson Southcentral Region Information Officer (907) 267-2219 www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/Region2/html/r2home.stm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Salmonids in the Classroom primary curriculum – Implemented mainly in the Southcentral Region. Curriculum is approved by the Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai Peninsula, Matanuska-Susitna Valley, and Copper River school districts. The curriculum includes hands-on activities such as fly-tying, salmon egg incubation, ice fishing, and salmon dissections.
- Special kids-only fishing pond events at two major trade shows.
- Mobile aquatic education trailer, complete with wet lab (to be delivered in spring 2003).
- Project WILD and Project WILD Aquatic.

Arizona	No youth-only waters	
	Game and Fish Department 2221 W. Greenway Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85023	(602) 942-3000 www.gf.state.az.us/frames/fishwild/idx_fish.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Angler Education Program – Open to the public Department-sponsored fishing programs have Sport Fish instructors available to provide instructions and answer questions. Loaner program for rods, reels, and limited supply of bait. On-line bulletin board of fishing events such as fly-fishing swap meet, introduction to fly fishing program, and Rainbow Trout Fishing Festival, where the community watches the first stocking of rainbow trout into a city lake.
- Youth fishing licenses: combination hunting and fishing \$25.50 (resident or nonresident); resident youth group two-day \$25.00
- Family fishing license: First parent \$28.50, second parent 22.80, each dependent child age 14-17 years \$2.00.

Arkansas	5 youth-only waters	
	Game and Fish Commission 2 Natural Resources Dr. Little Rock, AR 72205	Mike Armstrong Asst. Chief/Management Fisheries Division (501) 223-6371 www.agfc.com

Waters:

- Bob Courtway Pond at Conway, Faulkner County
- Camp Robinson Firing Range on the Camp Robinson Wildlife Management Area (WMA).
- Coleman Creek Pond, City of Little Rock
- Lake Village Community Fishing Pond, Chicot County
- Pine Bluff Regional Park Youth Fishing Pond, Jefferson County

Regulations:

Section 31.19 URBAN FISHING PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS.

It shall be unlawful 08-98/03-01 to fish in the following waters except as specified herein:

- (A) Coleman Creek Pond (Little Rock), Bob Courtway Pond (Conway), Camp Robinson Firing Range on Camp Robinson WMA, Lake Village Community Fishing Pond and Pine Bluff Regional Park Youth Fishing Pond:
- (1) Fishing open only to persons 15 years of age and younger and 65 years of age and older.
 - (2) Only hand-held rod or pole allowed.
 - (3) Largemouth bass: catch and release only.
 - (4) Catfish daily limit: 3
 - (5) Bream *Acanthopagrus australis* Gunther daily limit: 25
 - (6) All other sport fish daily limit: same as statewide

PENALTY: \$100.00 to \$1,000.00.

Comments:

- Special season: winter only.
- Initially there was a problem with ineligible people fishing, even though lakes were signed every 25 feet. Now compliance is good.
- Most lakes are in small communities.
- They are stocked routinely with channel catfish, largemouth bass, and bluegill.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Resources Education Program – Increase public awareness and understanding of natural resources and aquatic ecosystems, to enhance participation in sport fishing, to develop responsible attitudes toward aquatic environment. Mobile aquarium, classroom aquarium, organized fishing derbies, tackle loaner programs.
- Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs participant.
- Did a pilot study on what would it take to get people to start fishing again. Found family-oriented events rate higher than kids-only events. Considering changing regulations to anglers 16-64 may fish only if accompanied by a child.

California	One youth-only water	
	Department of Fish and Game Headquarters Office Box 944209 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090	(916) 653-6194 www.dfg.ca.gov/fishing/index.html

Water:

- Section of the Susan River, Lassen County

Regulation:

Chapter 3, Article 4, section 8.10 Youth Fishing Derby, Susan River (Lassen County).

The Susan River, from the second railroad tunnel (the westernmost) on the Biz Johnson Trail downstream to the Riverside bridge in the City of Susanville, is open to fishing on the Saturday preceding the last Saturday in April, only to persons under 16 years of age who are registered for the fishing derby sponsored by the Lassen County Sportsmen's Club.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Urban Fishing Program's Fishing in the City Clinics teaches city dwellers how to fish and where to fish. Also has tackle loaner program (see Responsible Angler Program, below) and partnerships with tackle shops to loan gear, some free to kids. Stocked ponds.
- Kids in Creeks school-based fishing program. Teacher workshop followed by fishing trip. Addresses watershed issues.
- Responsible Angler Program teaches about watersheds, regulations, aquatic ecosystems, ethical land and water use, conservation, hatchery program, and importance of restoration projects. Required to borrow tackle.
- Special events such as volunteer meetings, family fishing days, kid's fishing days.
- Conservation Education program and website (www.dfg.ca.gov/coned/index.html).

Colorado	Many youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife (DOW) Headquarters 6060 Broadway Denver, CO 80216	Tom Kingsley, aquatics (303) 291-7359 (303) 297-1192 headquarters wildlife.state.co.us/fishing/
	DOW Fort Collins Service Center 317 W. Prospect Fort Collins, CO 80526	Steve Putman (970) 472-4300
	Granby Town Hall P.O. Box 440 Granby, CO 80446	Susan (970) 887-2501
	City of Denver Department of Parks and Recreation Washington Park 701 S. Franklin St. Denver, CO	(303) 698-4962 www.denvergov.org

Waters:

- Boulder, Buena Vista, Camp Alexander Pond, Canon City, Fairplay, Gunnison (Pac-Man Pond), Kremmling, La Junta, Leadville, Meeker, Naturita, Ouray, Pitkin, Ridgeway, Sterling, Telluride, Trinidad, and Wacker ponds. Established by DOW.
- Horse Pasture Pond at Watson Lake State Wildlife Area (SWA) (Larimer County). Established by DOW.
- Kid's Fishing Pond in Granby, CO. Example of one of many established by a municipality.
- Kid's Fishing Pond in Hot Sulphur Springs State Wildlife Area (SWA), Breeze Unit. Established by DOW.
- Washington Park (Lily Pond) in Ward Road Pond SWA (Denver). Established by city and DOW. In the last 10 years, pond has received a single stocking of subcatchable channel catfish (6 inches long). Catfish were not productive in terms of easy hook-up. Also received cumulative stocking of 11,616 catchable rainbow trout (average size 9.9 inches), which have a much higher hook rate and better success in terms of special youth events.

Regulations:

- Granby: Per Susan in Granby Town Hall, kid's pond has been established for so long, there's probably no ordinance.
- Horse Pasture Pond: OA 00-135 Chapter 1 – Fishing; Article II – Special Regulation Waters; paragraph 150 Horse Pasture Pond at Watson Lake SWA – Larimer County (a.): Fishing is

restricted to youths 15 years of age or younger. Other SWA ponds similarly worded, or add handicapped licensed-anglers.

- Washington Park (Lily Pond). Fishing restricted to youths 16 and younger.

Comments:

- Granby: Per Susan, if adult was repeatedly fishing in kid's pond, they would probably be cited by city or county officers as "disturbing the peace," rather than cite an ordinance or state regulation or statute.
- Adults fishing is never much of a problem at Granby.
- Hot Sulphur Springs. DOW purchased old ranch, manages and enforces pond, which is about 15 miles from nearest town.
- DOW encourages kids to keep an eye out. Kids usually love to turn in adults.
- Very flexible with enforcement on these ponds. CO enforcement is very reluctant to issue citations to youth. Tend not to write a ticket to 17-, 18-, 19-yr-olds. If chronic problem, verbal warning, then write warning ticket.
- One problem is identification: youth are not required to carry photo ID. After requesting to see ID (if individual looks close to age limit), enforcement officers must take anglers at their word.
- If citation is issued, usually unlawful use of SWA, specifically, fishing in a closed area. \$68.00 bailable, no points. If adults have fish, also cited for unlawful possession.
- Suggested using whatever wording makes sense. It is more important to make sure the signs are kept up..

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Fishing is Fun program. Partnership with DOW, Federal Aid, and communities. Grant based.
- Fishing is FunTastic interactive web page (wildlife.state.co.us/fishing/FishyGames.asp).
- Project WET.
- Aquatic Project WILD.
- Youth hunting areas (youth and mentor).
- Youth small game, furbearer and fishing license \$1.00 (resident or non-resident).

Connecticut	32 youth-only waters	
	Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Natural Resources Fisheries Division 79 Elm St. Hartford, CT 06106	George Babbee (860) 424-3481 dep.state.ct.us/burnatr/fishing/fdhome.htm

Waters:

- Abe Stone Park Pond (Colony Park Pond), Town of Ansonia, New Haven County
- Backwater Pond, Town of Thompson, Windham County
- Basset Pond, Town of Brooklyn, Windham County
- Beachland Pond, Town of West Hartford, Hartford County
- Butternut Pond (closes Oct. 31), Town of East Windsor, Hartford County
- City Hall Pond, Town of Milford, New Haven County
- Clark Pond (Besse Pond), Town of Torrington, Litchfield County
- Edgewood Park Pond, Town of New Haven, New Haven County
- Factory Pond, Town of Salisbury, Litchfield County
- Fernridge Park Pond, Town of West Hartford, Hartford County
- Gould Manor Pond, Town of Fairfield, Fairfield County
- Helen Keller School Pond, Town of Easton, Fairfield County
- Hurlburt Pond, Town of Putnam, Windham County
- Hyde Park Pond, Town of Stafford, Tolland County
- Indian Hole Brook, from the falls in Indian Wells State Park downstream to the RR bridge, Town of Shelton, Fairfield County
- Katz Pond, Town of Trumbull, Fairfield County
- Lilly Pond, Town of Thompson, Windham County
- Lower Fulton Park Pond, Town of Waterbury, New Haven County

- McGovern Pond, Town of West Hartford, Hartford County
- Mill Pond, Town of Newington, Hartford County
- Mill Woods Park Pond, Town of Wethersfield, Hartford County
- Mirror Lake (Hubbard Park Pond), Town of Meriden, New Haven County
- North Street Pond, Town of Milford, New Haven County
- Page Park Pond, Town of Bristol, Hartford County
- Pasture Pond (Quinebaug Valley Hatchery) (closes Sept. 30), Town of Plainfield, Hartford County
- Quinebaug River, within town park, Town of Putnam, Windham County
- Sochrin Pond, Town of Seymour, New Haven County
- Stanley Quarter Pond, Town of New Britain, Hartford County
- Stroh Pond, Town of Windsor, Hartford County
- Upper Basin Pond, Town of Windsor Locks, Hartford County
- Washington Park Pond, Town of Windsor, Hartford County
- Wepawaug River, from old New Haven-Derby RR upstream approx. 2 mi., Town of Orange, New Haven County

Regulations:

- Title 26, Fisheries and Game. Section 112. Scope of Regulations. The commissioner may, after notice and public hearing, issue regulations governing fishing for all species of fish and the taking of all bait species in the inland district, which regulations may: (10) designate areas of land and water that shall be restricted for the exclusive use of children or the physically handicapped.

Comments:

- Note: CT counties are geographic only; regional government is by township.
- Open to fishing for the summer only.
- Restricted to angling by children under 16 years of age.
- Areas on streams indicated by posters.
- Open 6 a.m. on third Saturday of April through Nov. 30
- Most were so designated at request of community.
- Smaller ponds, located in parks.
- Enforcement nightmare – shorthanded.
- Never stocked. Natural populations of panfish, sunfish, largemouth bass, and/or bluegill.
- Phasing out kids only, thought about moving to family. Reason cited: in order to keep fishing growing, it must be a family activity. Try to get parents participating.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Resources Education. Free events for families, including classes and videos. Partnership with local parks and recreation departments. City Fishing team. Developing education center.
- Family Ice Fishing Derby. Kids get a prize just for showing up.

Delaware	One youth-only water	
	Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNR) Division of Fish and Wildlife 89 King Hwy Dover, DE 19901	(302) 739-5295 www.dnrec.state.de.us/dnrec2000/Fisheries.asp

Water:

- Edna Pond on-site of department Aquatic Resource Education Center, Kent County

Regulations:

- Designated by DNR Fisheries.
- Managed primarily for use by youngsters.
- Catch-and-release only.

Comment:

- Stocked with largemouth bass, channel catfish, bluegill.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Trout stamp required for juveniles 12-15 years old fishing in a designated trout stream during trout fishing season: \$2.10 resident, \$6.20 non-resident
- Aquatic Resource Education. Federal Aid grant. Education Center, lodge, field facilities, youth fishing program.
- Delaware Wetlands Discovery Trunk. Self-contained grades 4-8 learning stations.
- Fish Banks, Ltd. Middle school-high school kits teaching sustainable resource issues.
- Adopt-A-Wetland
- Outreach in partnership with Wesley College Department of Education.
- Youth hunting areas (with mentor).
- Projects WET, WILD and WADE.
- NatureLink. National Wildlife Federation program aimed at urban at-risk families.
- Planning regional youth education fishing curriculum with Virginia and Maryland.

Florida	Three youth-only waters	
	Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Division of Freshwater Fisheries 620 South Meridian St. Tallahassee, FL 32399	(904) 573-4918 Scott Brown, Crystal Springs (386) 758-0525 Jerry Krummrich, Ronnie VanZant www.floridaconservation.org/fishingareas.html

Waters:

- Youth-only pond at Crystal Springs Park, Duval County
- Youth-only pond at Joe Budd Aquatic Education Center, Gadsden County
- Youth-only pond at Ronnie Van Zant Park, Clay County

Regulations:

68A-20.005 Specific Fish Management Area Regulations

(1) Northwest Region:

(h) Joe Budd Pond, Gadsden County.

1. Closed to fishing, except as follows:

b. open to fishing by permit for Commission-sanctioned events throughout the year.

(2) North Central Region

(g) Ronnie Van Zant Park Pond, Clay County;

4. No person between the ages of 16 years and 64 years shall fish unless accompanied by an angler less than 16 years of age.

(3) Northeast Region:

(hh) Crystal Springs Park – Duval County:

1. No person between the ages of 16 years and 64 years shall fish unless accompanied by an angler less than 16 years of age; by an angler 65 years of age or older; by an angler who has been certified by the U.S. Veterans Administration, U.S. Social Security Administration, by any branch of the U.S. Armed Services, or by a licensed physician in this State to be totally and permanently disabled and has obtained a permanent license issued pursuant to s 372.561(5), F.S.; or by an angler with proof of acceptance as a client for developmental services by the Department of Children and Family services.

Comment:

- Crystal Springs Park: 4 acre lake stocked by FWC with channel catfish.
 - Stocked with about 3,000 channel catfish per year. As soon as the city dug the lake, residents stocked it (illegally) with largemouth bass, bluegill, probably other panfish.
 - One of nine urban lakes in Jacksonville area. City of Jacksonville came to FWC to ask to turn into youth, senior, handicapped pond, and to be stocked with channel catfish.

- Enforcement can be a problem: there are always a few anglers who want all the catfish and panfish they can eat. Sometimes it's difficult to get officers there, since the pond is so small, and since their duties are also wildlife and marine enforcement. Biologists sometimes have to enforce.
 - Popular: up to 18-22 kids at one time.
 - Recommendation: choose a waterway with no homes around it. Lakeshore residents may protest loss of opportunity, even to youth.
- Ronnie Van Zant: 4 acre lake with island, stocked by FWC with channel catfish, largemouth bass, bluegill.
 - About 2,000 catfish are stocked every year. Bass and bluegill are now naturally-reproducing.
 - Lake has fish feeding machines.
 - Stocked with about 3,000 per year. As soon as the city dug the lake, residents stocked it (illegally) with largemouth bass, bluegill, probably other panfish.
 - Clay County came to FWC with idea of building a recreational park with a youth-only lake. Lake is fully enclosed by county parklands.
 - Enforcement is never a problem. County maintenance employees are often present. Also, county residents are very proud of their park, and help keep an eye on it. The lake has been youth-only from the start, so anglers come in full knowledge of the regulation.
 - FWC has capability of creating special "Fish Management Areas" (FMA). All FMAs are done with a Memorandum of Understanding with their respective counties.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Joe Budd Aquatic Education Center, Gadsden County.
- Also disabled-veterans only lakes.
- Youth camps focusing on conservation.
- Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs participant.
- Project Aquatic WILD.
- Marine alphabet coloring book.
- Women's fishing page (floridafisheries.com/women/index.html).

Georgia	Five youth-only waters	
	Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Div. East-Central Region 2123 U.S. Hwy. 278 S.E. Social Circle, GA 30025	(770) 784-3059 Noelle Williams www.dnr.state.ga.us/dnr/wild/
	Moccasin Creek State Park Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Div. Coastal Region P.O. Box 2089 Waycross, GA 31502	Joe (706) 947-3194

Waters:

- 4 ponds at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center, Jasper and Newton Counties.
- Youth-only section of Moccasin Creek, Habersham County.

Regulations:

391-4-3-.09 Public Fishing Areas. Amended (2) On ponds or portions of ponds where fisheries resources are limited, area managers may limit fishing to persons under 16 years of age by posting a sign at the pond which indicates said limitations.

391-4-3-.07 Fishing on and Using State Owned or Operated Property. Amended (1) No person shall fish in that portion of Moccasin Creek from the Lake Burton Hatchery water intake downstream to a sign marking the approximate normal pool level of Lake Burton, except those persons under twelve (12) years of age and those persons holding honorary fishing licenses.

Comments:

- Charlie Elliott ponds see 3,500 kids per year. Ponds are closed to public except during special events, and adults not allowed to fish during special events. Catch-and-release only. Stocked with channel catfish, brown trout, largemouth bass.
- Moccasin Creek is open to ages 65 and over and 11 and under.
 - Right next to hatchery, stocked through hatchery pipe into river.
 - Stocked with rainbow trout, harvest allowed.
 - Their major challenge comes from the fact that in the immediate area, there are also miles of year-round and seasonal waters. Adults sometimes get confused on where and when to go. They recommend plenty of signage about age and season restrictions. However, they're fortunate that the water is located directly adjacent to the hatchery, and the fisheries office, so they can monitor the fishing area.
 - 100 yards of stream.
 - They also have two handicapped piers for ADA access right up to water.
 - They sell basic fishing supplies right at the office.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Education Program. Three components: youth education, adult education, and kids fishing.
- Youth Education: Aquatic Project WILD.
- Adult Education: regulations, news releases, PSAs, brochures, presentations.
- Kids Fishing Events: staff and volunteers teach kids how to fish targeting enhanced fisheries.
- Award-winning Department films and videotapes.
- Adult/Child hunts (children accompanied by responsible adult).

Hawaii	No youth-only waters	
	Division of Aquatic Resources 115 Punchbowl St., Rm 330 Honolulu, HI 96813	(808) 587-0100 www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dar/

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Monthly lunchtime lecture series featuring research projects and issues.
- Youth freshwater game fish license, age 9-15 \$3.00.

Idaho	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Fish and Game (DFG) P.O. Box 25 Boise, ID 83707	Chick Corsey (208) 334-3700 www2.state.id.us/fishgame/fish/fish.htm

Comments:

- None now, but considering "Family Fishing Waters."
- New, ultra-simple regulation. There is a statewide minimum length limit on bass (either large- or smallmouth). DFG examined their bass waters inventory and identified waters where a minimum length limit was not critical. They plan to keep general statewide bag limit at 6 fish for trout, bass, walleye *Stizostedion vitreum*, northern pike *Esox lucius*. Recently received approval from Commission.
- Targeting first-time, casual, neophyte anglers that might otherwise be intimidated by size limits and/or complicated bag limits.
- In or close to urban centers, or close to camping areas.
- Waters where there would be decent catch rates.
- A license class for families has been considered.

- How to publicize? Three regions did direct mail to random license holders. Other regions held public open houses to discuss change. One fishery manager went to the county fair and distributed surveys. The open houses and the survey also addressed other regulatory changes.
- Drafting regulations at this time.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Morrison Knudsen Nature Center, with regular stream walks, underwater viewing windows.
- Junior (14-17 years old) license classes: resident combo \$11.50; junior resident hunting only \$5.50; junior resident fishing only \$8.50; nonresident junior fishing \$21.50.
- Special parent/child hunts.

Illinois	One youth-only water	
	Department of Natural Resources (DNR) 524 S. Second St. Springfield, IL 62701	Herb Dreier, Urban Fishing Program (217) 782-6424 dnr.state.il.us/fish/index.htm
	North Marcum Campground Region V DNR Office 11731 State Hwy. 37 Benton, IL 62812	(618) 435-8130 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Phil Jenkins or Lou (618) 724-2493

Water:

- North Marcum Campground Pond, Franklin County

Regulation:

Title 17 Illinois Administrative Code, Section 810.45 Site Specific Water Area Regulations. North Marcum Campground Pond, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Franklin County. Recreational use Restriction. Fishing permitted only by persons under 16 years of age.

Comment:

- There is a main lake, 18,900 acres in size, surrounded by many small ponds, many of which were leftover pits from highway construction.
- The area is managed for walk-in fisheries.
- North Marcum Pond is easy to get to, along an asphalt trail to an abandoned campground.
- The pond is less than an acre.
- Several years ago the Corps did a use survey and a fish population density and distribution survey. They found the North Marcum Pond was over-used by adults, so codified it for youth-only.
- Stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish.
- It is generally accepted that the pond is for kids. There are other opportunities for adults in the area. There are signs around pond. Park and Corps personnel keep an eye on it, and might cite a violator, but the state does most of the enforcement.
- Partnership with DNR and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to create the lake.
- State does enforcement, and when they stock ponds for special children's events, they do have a hard time keeping the public out.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Urban Fishing Program (UFP) for youths and seniors. Clinics teach ethics, ecology, fish identification, techniques, and proper care of catch.
- Central region UFP has more than 27 areas stocked with hybrid sunfish and channel catfish.
- June, July, August at various sites in Chicago, Chicago collar counties, East St. Louis area, and other high-population areas of the state.
- UFP Central Region offers 2 clinics per day, M-F. 700,000 people served at clinics per year.
- Access to Fishing Program. Equipment loan to adults and children.
- ENTICE (Environment and Nature Training Institute for Conservation Education), incorporating long-term, standards-based, natural resource education into classrooms.
- Youth hunts.
- Project WILD Aquatic, Project WET.
- Junior (ages 9-15) freshwater fishing license \$3.00.

Indiana	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources 402 W. Washington, Rm. W273 Indianapolis, IN 46204	(317) 562-1336 www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/fishing/fishing.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Make Fishing Elementary web page (www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/fishing/bobber.htm).
- Natural Resources Education Center.
- Go FishIN, educational program providing information on aquatic ecology, angling skills and outdoor ethics. Classroom activities, fishing field trips. Administered through volunteer network.
- Project WET.
- Youth hunting license.

Iowa	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources 502 E 9 th St. Des Moines, IA 50319	(515) 281-FISH www.state.ia.us/dnr/organiza/fwb/fish/

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Education. Materials, program, clinics.
- Aquatic Education website: www.state.ia.us/dnr/organiza/fwb/fish/edcat/kids.htm
- Fish Iowa curriculum, including ice fishing and fly fishing.
- Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs program.
- Project Aquatic WILD.
- Permits for educators to allow their students to fish without a license.
- Youth hunting seasons, youth furbearer license.

Kansas	No youth-only waters	
	Wildlife and Parks 900 SW Jackson St., Suite 502 Topeka, KS 66612	(785) 296-2281 www.kdwp.state.ks.us/fishing/fishing.html

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Urban fish stocking program (UFP).
- UFP has 57 lakes stocked with channel catfish as often as every two weeks.
- Fishing clinics by staff. Geared toward younger children. Teaches fish identification, management., casting, equipment, water safety, cooking. Hands-on fishing with provided equipment.
- Youth hunting programs, junior furbearer license, junior hunting licenses.

Kentucky	One youth-only pond	
	Fish and Wildlife Resources 1 Game Farm Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601	1-800-858-1549 Lonnie Nelson www.kdfwr.state.ky.us/fisherie.htm

Water:

- Lower Game Farm Lake, Franklin County

Regulation:

KRS 301 Section 4. Exceptions to Statewide Administrative Regulations. A person fishing in the waters listed in this section shall observe the following special requirements.

Except as specified in this section, all other provisions of this administrative regulation shall apply to these bodies of water.

(30) Game Farm Lake.

(c) Lower Game Farm Lake:

1. A person thirteen (13) years or older shall not fish.

Comments:

- 3-acre pond on Fish and Wildlife building grounds.
- Stocked in winter (October–April) with rainbow trout. Stocked in summer (June–September) with largemouth bass and channel catfish.
- Stocked for special events. 75-100 kids per event. Scout badges, fly fishing clinics.
- Signed every 25 feet.
- Could be a nightmare to police: limited enforcement manpower. Even though pond is right next to DFW building, there's always that 1% who seem to deliberately ignore the law.
- Usual objections: I buy a license like everyone else, I have the right to fish here.
- Recommends establishing a new kids-only water right from the beginning.
- Also recommends partnership with local fly fishermen, angler groups, etc. to sponsor. Groups can say this is where we'll bring kids to teach them angling and angling ethics. Groups then also have sense of stewardship.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Kids Fishing Days. Statewide events.
- Joint husband and wife fishing license class. \$27.00; junior hunting license.

Louisiana	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Wildlife and Fisheries P.O. Box 98000 Baton Rouge, LA 70898	(225) 765-2800 www.wlf.state.la.us

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Multimedia CD-ROM of wetland loss prevention.
- Aquatic Education Program designed to acquaint youngsters and adults with the sport of fishing, management of fish species, and the science of Louisiana's diverse aquatic habitats.
- Fishing clinics.
- WILD Louisiana curriculum with fisheries units.
- School programs.
- Marsh maneuvers (wetlands education camp).
- "Let's Go Fishing," activity guide for upper elementary school students.
- "Ready, Set ... Go Fishing" activity guide for K-3.
- Outdoor Education Facilities.
- Rod and reel loaner program in certain parish library systems.
- Project WILD.

Maine	30 youth-only areas	
	Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Fisheries Division 284 State Street, #41 August, ME 04333	(207) 287-8000 Peter Bourque www.state.me.us/ifw/fish/fish.htm

Waters:

- Abbott Brook, Oxford County. Under 16 only.
- Adams Pond, Cumberland County. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Alder Stream, Franklin County (Indian Territory): Anglers age 15 and under may use single-pointed artificial lures; fly-fishing for everyone else.
- Auburn Lake, from the bridge at Route 4 downstream to the dam. Under 16 only from April 1–June 20.
- Aunt Hannah Brook, Oxford County, from point where it crosses Rt. 142 to its mouth at Webb River. Under 16 only.

- Big Magalloway River, Oxford County. From Bennett's Covered Bridge in Lincoln Plantation to red posts about ¼ mile upstream. Under 16 may fish under General Law limits (more liberal for youths).
- Billy Brook, Oxford County, from confluence with Shepherd's River upstream to the first bridge. Under 16 only.
- Carrabassett River, Franklin County, from its confluence with the West Branch of the Carrabassett to Route 146 in East New Portland. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- East Branch of the Penobscot River, Penobscot County. Children under 16 years of age may fish from the bank using bait from the Matagamon Lake Dam to the upstream confluence with Magee Brook.
- Haley Pond Outlet, Franklin County. Under 16 only.
- Johnny Mack Brook, Penobscot County. Under 16 only.
- Logan Lake, Aroostook County. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Lower Hinckley Pond, Cumberland County. Under 16 only.
- Mantle Lake, Aroostook County. Under 16 and complimentary license holders only.
- Mattagodus Stream, south of Route 6, Penobscot County. Under 16 and complimentary license holders only.
- Mill Stream (outlet of Little Wassokeag Lake), Penobscot County. That portion of Mill Stream from the dam on Little Wassokeag to the downstream side of the Liberty Street Bridge. Under 16 only.
- Mill Stream, Somerset County. From the Embden Pond outlet to the Townhouse Road bridge (minus the 200 ft. zone from the hatchery). Under 16 only.
- Norway Lake Outlet, Oxford County. From the dam at Main Street (Rt. 177) downstream to the dam at Rt. 26. Under 16 only during April and May.
- Pearce Brook, Aroostook County. From Meduxnekeag River upstream to the Hollywood Road, so-called. Under 16 and complimentary license holders only.
- Pickerel Pond, Hancock County. Under 16 only.
- Pinnacle Pond, Franklin County. Under 16 only.
- Piscataquis River, Piscataquis County: from the dam in Guildford downstream to the Atkinson-Sebec bridge (includes tributaries upstream to the first bridge): Guilford, Sangerville, Dover-Foxcroft, Sebec, Atkinson. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Rocky Brook, Penobscot County. Entire brook restricted to fishing by children under 16 years of age only.
- Round Pond, Franklin County. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Spicer Pond, York County. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Steven E. Powell (Swan Island) Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Sagadahoc County. Restricted to fishing by children under 16 years of age only, under proper supervision.
- Stevens Brook, Cumberland County, sometimes called Cemetery Brook. Fishing restricted to persons under 16 years of age from Church Road to the Gloucester Hill Road.
- Tote Road Pond and tributaries and outlet, Aroostook County. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Upper Hadlock Pond, Hancock County. Only children 12 and under may use bait.
- Wilcox Pond, York County. Under 16 only.

Regulation:

- Title 12: Conservation; Part 10: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; Chapter 711: Fishing; Subchapter I: General Provisions; § 7557. Identifying waters where children may fish with single baited hook and line. Rules adopted by the commissioner that set forth the special fishing regulations for the inland waters of the State must include a list of waters where a person under 12 years of age may fish with a single baited hook and line.

Comments:

- Some waters youth-only, some allow youth to fish under general tackle regulations (use bait, but no live fish).
- Some are private farm ponds that Inland Fisheries has a cooperative agreement with the owner to make them kids-only.

- Maine Inland Fisheries had been removing youth-only restrictions and returning waterways to general fishing.
- In the last 5 years or so, youth-only areas have been re-instituted.
- Stocked with brook trout, brown trout, some rainbow trout.
- Tend to police themselves.
- Under legislative mandate, Inland Fisheries is required to increase areas where kids could use regular gear.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Nonresident junior (12-15) license class \$7.00.
- Hooked on Fishing Not On Drugs program.
- Staff give special fishing presentations.
- Campgrounds sponsor kids fishing derbies.
- Maine Youth Field Days, youth learn skills in shooting, trapping, hunting, fishing, survival, ATV operation.
- Project WILD Aquatic.
- Project WET.

Maryland	9 youth-only areas	
	Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Service Tawes State Office Bldg. Annapolis, MD 21401	(410) 260-8300 Bob Fenton, Conservation/Educat. www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/

Waters:

- Avalon Pond, Baltimore County
- Carroll Creek (youth/blind), Frederick County
- Georges Creek (youth/blind), Allegany County
- Glade Park Pond (youth/blind), Garrett County
- Jones Falls and tributaries above Stevenson Road to its source, Baltimore County
- Laurel Run, Allegany County
- Lt. Tonoloway Creek (youth/blind), Washington County
- Pangborn Pond, Washington County
- Rising Sun Pond, from March 1 through May 15, Cecil County

Regulations:

Title 8, Section 02, Subsection 11.03, C. Trout Fishing Areas Limited to Fishing by Persons under 16 Years Old, 65 Years Old and Older, and Blind Persons.

(1) Special provisions in effect on these areas:

- (a) Fishing in these areas is limited to persons under 16 years old, persons 65 years old and older, and blind persons;
- (b) Regulation .01B(1)(a)—(d) of this chapter, which applies to put-and-take trout streams, shall apply to these special trout management areas.

(2) Areas subject to provisions of this section:

- (a) Jones Falls, Baltimore County. That portion of Jones Falls and tributaries above Stevenson Road to their source.
- (b) Laurel Run (Moscow), Allegany County.
- (c) Avalon Pond, Baltimore County.
- (d) Pangborn Pond, Washington County.
- (e) Rising Sun Pond from March 1 through May 15

Comments:

- All waters stocked with rainbow trout and brown trout in spring.
- Rising Sun Pond stocked in fall with rainbow trout and brown trout, and open to all ages.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- License-free fishing areas.
- Governor's Youth Fishing Derby.

- Teacher's Resource Guide and CD – high school lesson plans addressing environmental science, government, geography, writing, math and reading outcomes.
- Chesapeake Bay programs promoting issues to area youth.
- Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs program.
- Outdoor Discovery Camps providing an outdoor experience, including fishing.
- Stream rehabilitation program activities for middle school students.
- Junior resident license classes. Junior resident consolidated (includes deer) \$15.50; junior resident basic hunting (no deer) \$6.50. Junior is any one under the age of 16.

Massachusetts	No youth-only waters	
	Division of Fisheries and Wildlife 100 Cambridge St. Boston, MA 02202	(508) 792-7270 Mark Tisa, ext. 129 www.state.ma.us/dfwele/dfw/dfw_toc.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Junior license classes: resident minor (15-17) fishing license \$11.50; non-resident minor \$11.50.
- Minor hunters must have written consent of parent or guardian to obtain a sporting or hunting license.
- Angler education program designed to foster public appreciation and understanding of aquatic resources. Includes family fishing festivals, basic freshwater fishing classes, freshwater fishing clinics, basic ice fishing clinics. Volunteer instructors.
- Aquatic WILD.
- Watershed education, provides secondary school teachers with materials, guidelines, and a network.
- Junior Conservation Camp, 2-week overnight summer camp teaches outdoor recreation skills.

Michigan	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division Box 30446 Lansing, MI 48909	(517) 373-1280 Lynne www.dnr.state.mi.us/SubPage.asp?Sec=fish

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- "Pocket Parks" – one at Detroit state fairgrounds, one at Upper Peninsula state fairgrounds.
- They do have special event during state fair in September and October.
- Stocked with hybrid bluegill.
- Catch-and-release only during state fair. After the fair, Detroit Parks and Recreation personnel open up the pond to special groups until the fish are gone.
- Both pocket parks were built about 3-4 years ago.
- Junior (12-16) voluntary all species license \$2.00.
- Fishing in the Parks program. Instructors teach sport fishing, June-August.

Minnesota	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Rd. Saint Paul, MN 55155	(651) 772-7950 Dave Zappetillo Rick Walsh www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing.html

Comments:

- Although no youth-only waters, MN has many family-only waters, called Family Fishing Lakes.
- 97C.005 Special management waters Subdivision 1. Definition; designation. (a) Special management waters are waters that: (2) are classified by the commissioner for primary use as trophy lakes, family fishing lakes, designated trout lakes, designated trout streams, special species management lakes, and other designated uses.

- Minneapolis-Saint Paul metro area also has small ponds stocked with sunfish, black crappie *Pomoxis nigrmaculatus* or white crappie *Pomoxis annularis* and black bullheads *Ameiurus melas*. Ponds are legally open for anyone, but intended for kids.
- Part of a new program called “FIN – Fishing In Neighborhoods.”
- Kid’s ponds have stocked sunfish and crappies. These fish are easy to catch.
- Allow peer pressure to handle enforcement.
- 300 managed fishery lakes and 4 major rivers in the Twin Cities area.
- Encourage harvest as part of the ethic.
- Legislature has directed funding to be set aside to develop kids’ fishing program.
- There is quite a demand, and suggests that once Alaska Department of Fish and Game puts in a kids’ only or family only lake, then be prepared for everyone wanting one.
- Sent Fishing In the Neighborhood Program work plan for 2001.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Take a kid fishing weekend.
- Take a mom fishing weekend.
- MinnAqua education program. Partnerships with Extension Service, Parks, Science Museum, etc. Seminars, traveling displays, training services.
- Husband and wife fishing license class — \$26.00 resident, \$36.00 14-day nonresident. Husband and wife combination hunting and fishing license class, \$37.00. Non-resident family fishing license (husband, wife, and children under age 16), \$47.00.
- Project WET.
- Project Aquatic WILD.
- Take a Kid Hunting weekend.
- Youth waterfowl hunt.

Mississippi	1 youth-only water	
	Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (DWFP) P.O. Box 451 Jackson, MS 39205-0451	(601) 433-2207 Dennis Reicke www.mdwfp.com/fishing.asp

Water:

- Brookhaven Fishing Pond, Lincoln County

Regulations:

Public Notice No. 3550.001. The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks at a meeting at Paul B. Johnson State Park on April 26, 2000 under authority of Section 25-43-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, make known its intent to adopt and thirty (30) days thereafter did adopt the following regulations, the following size limits and creel limits on fish at Community Assistance Program water bodies. This is done under the authority of Section 49-7-41 and 49-1-29, Mississippi Code of 1972.

The Brookhaven Fishing Pond will only be open for fishing to persons 14 years old or younger and handicapped persons. The term “handicapped persons” used here includes paraplegics, hemiplegics, anyone permanently dependent upon a wheelchair for mobility, anyone who requires the permanent use of braces, full prosthesis or crutches for walking or blindness.

Comments:

- 1-acre pond stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, red ear sunfish *Lepomis microlophus*, bream, channel catfish.
- Largemouth bass is catch-and-release only.
- Cost-shared with community to develop, then community contacted DWFP to restrict to youth-only.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Free fishing for youths under 16 on 21 special State Fishing Lakes.
- Projects WET and WILD through MS Museum of Natural Science.

- Pathways to Fishing.
- Youth hunts.
- Ladies' hunts.
- Mississippi State University has sport fishing club for kids through their extension service.

Missouri	2 youth-only waters	
	Department of Conservation P.O. Box 180 Jefferson City, MO 65102	(573) 751-4115 Randy Noyes www.conservation.state.mo.us/fish

Waters:

- Honker Pond, Jackson County
- Lost Valley Fish Hatchery, Benton County

Regulations:

Title 3 Code of State Regulations, Division 10, Chapter 11, Section 205 Fishing, Methods and Hours:

(3) On James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area:

(C) On Honker Pond, fishing is restricted to persons twelve (12) years of age or younger and not more than one (1) pole and line may be used by (1) person at a time.

(6) On Lost Valley Fish Hatchery, fishing is permitted only on designated waters from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Fishing is restricted to persons twelve (12) years of age or younger and not more than one (1) pole and line may be used by one (1) person at a time.

Comments:

- Both ponds are open to fishing only during special events: kid's fishing days, conservation education events.
- No enforcement concerns by opening to fishing only during special events.
- Both ponds are open to observation year-round.
- Stocked just prior to event.
- Honker is stocked with channel catfish, and has naturally-reproducing populations of largemouth bass and bluegill.
- Honker is 1-acre pond
- Lost Valley is the largest warm water state-owned hatchery in Missouri, and one of the ten largest in the nation. The hatchery raises walleye, muskellunge *Esox masquinongy*, channel catfish, largemouth bass, striped and hybrid bass, bluegill, and hybrid sunfish. Any or all products can be stocked in the hatchery pond prior to the event.
- Fishing in the Lost Valley pond is allowed during visitor center hours.
- Program has nothing but positive results.
- Having adults help the kids, and be involved, should help angler base in future years.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Outside In – a quarterly publication for youth.
- Teacher's Page (www.conservation.state.mo.us/teacher).
- Kids' Fishing Days in May.
- Mobile Aquarium.
- Three lakes in St. Louis area reserved for education field trips.
- Youth hunts.
- Special youth (12 and under) hunting permit \$15.00.

Montana	5 youth-only waters	
	Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP) P.O. Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620	(406) 444-2535 Allen Kuser www.fwp.state.mt.us/fishing/fishing.htm

Waters:

- Elk's Club Pond near Lewiston, Fergus County
- Fairground Pond in Helena, Lewis and Clark County
- Gheny Pond near Twin Bridges, Madison County
- Indian Road Pond near Townsend, Broadwater County
- Vigilante Pond near Virginia City, Madison County

Regulations:

Title 87-1-304 (6) The commission may declare certain fishing waters closed to fishing except by persons under 15 years of age. The purpose of this subsection is to provide suitable fishing waters for the exclusive use and enjoyment of juveniles under 15 years of age, at times and in areas the commission in its discretion considers advisable and consistent with its policies relating to fishing.

Regulations specifically naming the above as youth-only ponds not posted on-line.

Comments:

- Current ponds usually stocked with rainbow trout.
- Trying to move away from codified youth-only. Reason: kids are more likely to go fishing if parents take them, and parents are more likely to take them if they can fish, too.
- In the process of creating family fishing/urban fishing ponds in addition to codified ponds. Five in the works so far, across the state. Fishery manager identifies potential sites.
- In the new family fishing ponds, FWP will strongly encourage adults to catch-and-release only, but let the kids harvest fish.
- They will most likely be stocked with rainbow trout catchables.
- FWP does a Memorandum of Understanding with the county or municipality. One thing that inevitably comes up is liability. In almost all cases, the existing county or municipality liability insurance already covers the fishing activities, especially if the lake has a park, playground, or swimming area.
- They try to set it up so that FWP provides engineering services, and uses the county/municipality equipment to construct the pond.
- The ponds are very popular, and valued by the residents.
- Recommends selecting sites that kids can bike or walk to, and staying away from sites that kids must be driven to.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Partnerships with angling groups to offer clinics.
- Montana Angling Youth Club, with newsletters, supplies.
- Junior fishing license classes: youth (12-14) conservation license \$4.00; youth combination sports; 15-17 years may purchase half price licenses.
- Discover the Outdoors Camps, for single parent families.

Nebraska	2 youth-only waters	
	Game and Parks Commission P.O. Box 30370 Lincoln, NE 68503	(402) 471-0641 Rick Eades www.ngpc.state.ne.us/fishfishing.html

Waters:

- Jenny Newman Lake in Platte River State Park, Cass County
- Marina Lake in Eugene T. Mahone State Park, Cass County

Regulations:

Title 163, Chapter 2, Section 006, Sport Fishing Regulations, Sub-section 13: Special Areas. Special regulations are in effect on the following areas:

163.2.006.13H Eugene T. Mahone State Park (Cass County) Marina Lake: It shall be unlawful to fish in the lake except:

006.13H1 Children under 16 years of age and handicapped adults are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area.

006.13H2 Daily bag limit for the lake will be two fish per fisherman. Possession limits for each species will be as established in the general fishing regulation 006.03.

006.13H3 Minimum size limit for largemouth bass taken from the lake is 18 inches. All smaller largemouth bass must be returned to the lake immediately by the fisherman.

163.2. 006.13M Platte River State Park, Jenny Newman Lake (Cass County)

006.13M1 Children under 16 years of age and adults (parents or guardians) assisting children fishing under their supervision are permitted to fish the entire lake, except the immediate marina area.

006.13M2. Possession of any fish species while fishing this water body is prohibited. This lake is designated a "No Kill Lake", thus all species just be returned unharmed to the lake immediately by the angler. All artificial lure hooks must be barbless or the barb(s) must be flattened.

Comments:

- Both areas within state parks land.
- Lakes are about 3 to 5 acres.
- There is another lake near Marina Lake that adults can fish for largemouth bass and rainbow trout.
- Both lakes were initially stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish. The bass and bluegill are now naturally-reproducing. The Game and Parks commission re-stocks channel catfish.
- Both lakes are catch-and-release only for all species, to encourage conservation, and to discourage adults from over fishing the lakes.
- In 2002, clarified regulations to allow adults to help children fish. Allowing adults to handle gear has made a big perceptual difference in participation, perhaps because of the increased mentorship, and in part because increased perception in safety. Adults expressed concern about children running around alone. Also, some of the channel catfish can grow up to 20 lbs., which is a lot of fish for a young child to haul in.
- A lot of city (Omaha) lakes have their own youth restrictions, and all are also catch-and-release.
- Recommend family designation, to alleviate safety concerns, and to encourage fishing mentorship.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Education Program. Classroom materials, free field trips to the aquarium, fishing skills workshops.
- Educational fishing project permit.
- Urban Fishing Areas (codified Title 163, Chapter 2, Section 006, Sub-section 14). 24 lakes. Created to improve fishing in and around NE urban areas. City park and state recreation area lakes accessible to large numbers of urban residents, particularly children. Activities include habitat improvement, access development, stocking, fish population management, family fishing clinics. Special regulations on some waterways, reducing or restricting harvest. Program waters should become favorite destinations for adults wishing to teach young children how to fish.
- Fishing tackle loaner program in conjunction with state parks.
- Reel In Rewards program. Buy a fishing license, be eligible to win award (Cabelas, etc.).
- Kids' Korner website (164.119.102.21/nebland/trailtales/index.html).
- Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium Outdoor Education Center.

Nevada	No youth-only waters	
	Division of Wildlife Fisheries/Habitat Bureau 1100 Valley Rd. Reno, NV 89512	(775) 688-1500 nevadadivisionofwildlife.org/ fish/fishburo.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Trout in the Classroom (incubation program).
- Angler Education Program with fishing clinics.
- Special permits to special care organizations.
- Junior (12-15) fishing license — resident \$5.00; non-resident \$9.00. Junior combination hunting and fishing (parental signature required at time of purchase), \$8.00.
- Pre-adult hunting (16-17) license \$24.00; junior hunting (12-15) \$5.00.

New Hampshire	1 youth-only water	
	Fish and Game Department 2 Hazen Dr. Concord, NH 03301	(603) 271-2501 Mike Johnson wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing.htm

Water:

- Crawford Notch State Park, Saco River: from the dam at Willey House Historical Site upstream to a point where the Saco River enters Willey Pond, Carroll County

Regulation:

Fis 407.02 (d) Crawford Notch State Park (Harts Location) — from the dam at the Willey House Historical Site upstream to a point where the Saco River enters Willey Pond designated with a sign which state: "Waters from this point downstream to Willey pond dam closed to all fishing."

Fis 407.02 Trout Waters. d) This waterbody as referenced in Table 400.2 in Fis 407.01(d) shall be closed to all fishing.

Comments:

- The river is dammed up in spring to create a small pond. Fish and Game Department stocks it, then in fall, the dam is released, and any leftover fish run downstream.
- Stocked with brook trout, kids can keep two fish.
- Enforced by Fish and Game, but never really a problem. Division of Parks personnel wear uniforms, and can do informal encounters and explain the area is for children only, but there is never really a problem with adults fishing in the area.
- Parks puts out fish feeders, so kids can buy trout food for \$.25. Parks has recovered approximately \$2,000 in trout food. Oversight of the feeders is not a big problem, either, since Parks has people on site 24-hours per day.
- In effect for a long time.
- The pond is located in a very public place, on Rt. 302, which is very busy. The state park, Crawford Notch, is also very busy.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Resources Education program, including Let's Go Fishing courses that teach families basic ecological concepts, and fishing skills.
- One-day resident family fishing license \$26.00

New Jersey	No youth-only waters	
	Fish and Wildlife P.O. Box 400 Trenton, NJ 08625-0400	(609) 748-2031 Sue Pinelli (908) 637-4125 Pequest Fish Hatchery www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/fishing.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic WILD.
- Packet of sources for K-12 teachers.
- Curriculum supplements (in addition to Aquatic WILD).
- Special publications, including aquarium visit worksheets, aquarium guides, posters, musicians, maps.
- Urban Fishing Program, teaches ecology, fish biology, watershed, pollution prevention, angling techniques.

New Mexico	13 youth-only waters	
	Department of Game and Fish P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, NM 87504	(505) 476-8055 Richard Hansen www.gmfsh.state.nm.us/PageMill_Text/Fishing/sportfishing.html

Waters:

- Brood Pond at Seven Springs State Hatchery, Los Alamos County
- Estancia Park Lake, Torrance County
- Harris Pond, San Miguel County
- Olympic Pond, Colfax County
- Ponds in Harry McAdams Park, Lea County
- Posted small pond at Cowles, San Miguel County
- Red River City ponds, Taos County
- Red River Hatchery Pond, Taos County
- Santa Rosa Pond at Blue Hole Park, Guadalupe County
- Shuree Kids' Ponds, Colfax County
- Spring River Park, Chavez County
- Valley Improvement Association Ponds, Valencia County
- Young Pond, Las Cruces County

Regulation:

New Mexico Administrative Code Title 19, Chapter .31, Part 4, Section 14 NMAC WATERS WITH AGE OR HANDICAPPED USE RESTRICTIONS:

- A. Only persons under 12 years of age may fish in the following waters: Estancia Park Lake at Estancia; Shuree Kids' Ponds on Valle Vidal (Vermejo Tract-Carson National Forest); Valley Improvement Association ponds at Belen, Young Pond in Las Cruces, Harris Pond in Las Vegas, Spring River Park at in Roswell, and the Brood Pond at Seven Springs State Fish Hatchery.
- B. Only persons under 12 years of age, those 65 years and over, and handicapped persons may fish in the designated Red River Hatchery Pond located at the Red River State Fish Hatchery, Blue Hole Park Pond (formerly Santa Rosa Seniors Pond), and in ponds located in Harry McAdams Park.
- C. Only handicapped persons and those under 12 years of age may fish in the Red River City ponds, and in the posted small Pond at Cowles.
- D. Olympic Pond: Only persons under 12 years of age and those 65 years and over may fish in Olympic Pond located at Angel Fire.

Comments:

- Stocked in winter with catchable rainbow trout.
- On occasion enforcement problems.
- Established as kids' waters for a long time.

- Community-driven.
- Shifted from kids-only to kids and seniors.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Junior (12-14) license classes: resident \$5.00; nonresident \$18.50; resident junior hunting/fishing combo \$20.00.
- Fishing clinics for school classes, families.

New York	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Environmental Conservation East-Central Region 4 Rte. 10, HCR 1 Stamforde, NY 12167	(607) 652-7366 Bob Slingerland www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/index.html

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Free fishing events for families, occasionally with stocked fish.
- Youth fishing clubs, with Cornell Cooperative Extension. Volunteer instructors teach ecology, ethics, biology, techniques, resource stewardship.
- “First Fish” program. Print a form and send it to DEC, who sends a special award.

North Carolina	No youth-only waters	
	Wildlife Resources Commission Division of Inland Fisheries Raleigh, NC 27699	(919) 733-3633 www.ncwildlife.org/fs_index_03_fishing.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Cool Kids’ Fishin website (www.ncdmf.net/kids/fish.htm).
- Outdoor skills workshops.
- Community Fishing Program. 30 lakes stocked monthly in the summer with channel catfish. Aimed at family fishing. 75/25 matches with local communities. Most sites located in city- or county-owned parks.
- Fish For Fun events. Youth fishing clinics, fishing rodeos, usually near Community Fishing Program lakes. Staff help coordinate in partnership with organizations.
- Wildlife education centers. The Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education specifically offers many programs for children.
- Fishing Tackle Loaner Program.
- Mobile Aquarium.

North Dakota	3 youth-only waters	
	Game and Fish Department 100 North Bismarck Expressway Bismarck, ND 58501	(701) 328-6300 www.state.nd.us/gnf/fishing/

Waters:

- Langdon City Pond, Cavalier County
- McDowell Dam, Burleigh County
- Velva Sportsmen’s Pond, Ward County

Regulations:

20.1-11-05. Establishment of state game or fish management areas. The director may establish game or fish management areas upon any state-owned lands for the use and benefit of the game and fish department with the written consent of the entity responsible for the management of any state-owned lands, or upon any publicly or privately owned land leased or given by license to the game and fish department for hunting and fishing purposes. These game or fish management areas may be opened for hunting, fishing, or trapping under chapter 20.1-08. The director may adopt rules concerning the use of game or fish management areas pursuant to chapter 28-32.

Comments:

- Need to call to confirm, find out if stocked.
- Special Fish Management Areas. Managed to provide youth fishing opportunities in select fishing lakes. Most of these opportunities focus trout which are highly vulnerable to hook and line. These areas will be closed to all fishing from Nov. 1 through Mar. 31 of each fishing year. Only 1 fishing pole or line may be used. No live baitfish may be used.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Project WILD/Aquatics.
- Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites teaching outdoor ethics.
- North Dakota State Fair Game and Fish Conservation Park. Hands-on activities featuring Pathway to Fishing. Pathway Pond fishing with cane poles, stocked with bluegills and other fish.
- Project FISH (Friends Involved in Sportsfishing Heritage). Encourages mentorship through Kids Fishing Camp, Pathway to Fishing at the state fair, National Fishing Week events, Hooked on Fishing Not On Drugs, tackle loaner program.
- Husband/wife license class: resident \$14.00, nonresident \$25.00. Youth (under 16) resident bow license \$10.00 for deer, \$10.00 for antelope.

Ohio	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife 1894 Fountain Square Court Columbus, OH 43224	(614) 265-6300 www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/fishing/default.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Occasionally, on trout stockings, DNR staff will rope off an area for kids to fish. Legally, everyone can fish.
- Tips on kids fishing website (www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/fishing/fishingguide/kidsfishing.htm).
- Hooked on Fishing, Not On Drugs.
- Beginner fly-fishing clinics.
- Youth hunting license.

Oklahoma	2 youth-only waters	
	Department of Wildlife Conservation P.O. Box 53465 Oklahoma City, OK 73152	(405) 755-4014 Bob Martin at the H.B. Parsons Fish Hatchery www.wildlifedepartment.com/fishing.htm
	Fountainhead State Park HC 60, Box 1340 Checotah, OK 74426	Sue (918) 689-5311 www.touroklahoma.com/Pages/stateparks/parks/fntspbig.html

Waters:

- Kids Fish Out at Fountainhead State Park, McIntosh County
- Pickens Lake at Fountainhead State Park, McIntosh County
- Dolese Youth Park Pond, Oklahoma City

Regulations:

New, not yet available.

Comments:

- Dolese Youth Park Pond in the "Fish Close to Home program."
- 19-surface acre city pond.
- Stocked with channel catfish in the summer and with rainbow trout in the winter. Sometimes stocked with hybrid sunfish for special fishing events and clinics.

- Open to fishing for youth under 16 years. Adults may fish if youth is present, or from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. if unaccompanied.
- Youth-only fishery is not recommended, especially if set up with strange fishing hours, such as Dolese. Non-enforcement is also a problem. At Dolese, enforcement is handled by Oklahoma City Police, who are never at the pond.
- Recommends youth-only on weekends, when adults are actually available to help kids.
- Kids Fish Out (Fountainhead SP): only open to persons under 16 yrs., or 64 yrs or older, or 60% disabled, or legally blind, or physically impaired and one companion.
- Stocked with channel catfish, bluegill, warmouth sunfish (hybrid?), and individuals have thrown in some largemouth bass and crappie.
- Fountainhead personnel have signage up to the effect that it is usable only by youth and handicapped individuals. For the most part it is abided by, but they do have to "run people off" sometimes. As far as law enforcement, they do not write tickets there, but it's because they keep a good handle on the situation. They suspect they might have a difficult time getting the District Attorney to support them on any tickets they might write there.
- It's really a small pond and highly visible from a highway.
- They've never really been challenged because the signage is there. The signage just gives basic (two sentences) information and then says "Check fishing regs." As you read the regulations yourself, it's in there and that settles any argument that might have come forth.
- Pickens Lake: only open to residents who are under 16 years, or 65 years or older, or 60% disabled, or legally blind and those assisting them.
- Also has free fishing for kids and seniors off "enclosed" fishing docks, which can be either privately-owned or state-owned.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Resources Education Program, offers clinics, fishing seminars, enhancement of urban fishing areas, helped by certified volunteer instructors.
- Oklahoma Aquarium planned to open in 2002 or 2003, will include an extensive fishing museum.

Oregon	No youth-only waters	
	Fish and Wildlife Fish Division P.O. Box 59 Portland, OR 97207	(503) 368-6828 Joe Watkins www.dfw.state.or.us/ODFWht ml/ InfoCntrFish/InfoCntrFish.html

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- "24 Great Places to Fish in Oregon:" Publication with highly recommended lakes for family fishing.
- Aquatic and Angler Education Program. Introduces aquatic ecology and the sport of angling, with emphasis on youth-oriented programs. Certified volunteer instructors. Curriculum, equipment, clinics.
- Youth angling license (14-17), \$6.75. Youth salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and halibut tag, \$6.50.
- Youth hunting licenses.

Pennsylvania	27 youth-only waters	
	Fish and Boat Commission 450 Robinson Lane Bellfonte, PA 16823	(717) 705-7848 Carl Richardson www.fish.state.pa.us

Waters:

- Buffalo Creek between N. Third and N. Eighth Street, in Borough off Mifflinburg, Union County.
- Children's Lake, Cumberland County.
- Clarks Creek, from Route 225 upstream to first bridge, Dauphin County.
- Conococheague Creek, Franklin County.
- Conodoguinet Creek, Franklin County.

- Coplay Creek, an area extending 50 feet upstream and 50 feet downstream of a fishing pier for persons with disabilities, Lehigh County.
- Deep Creek upstream side of Schuylkill County Bridge #111 along Hubley Township Road, downstream, Schuylkill County.
- Ester Run from a point opposite the home of Raymond Seville, Jr. downstream to approximately 0.4 mile below T-342, Fulton County.
- Fishing Creek from the cable 30 yards above the bridge at the intersection of Pines Road and Route 262 downstream to the cable 75 yards downstream of the fire dam, York County.
- Girard Park Pond, Erie County.
- Goss Run, from base of Brisbane Dam downstream 150 yards, Clearfield County.
- Kettle Creek—2 sites. As posted at bridge in Cross Forks, and in Ole Bull State Park from concrete bridge upstream 475 feet to a wire, Potter County.
- Little Muddy Run, from spillway of the Janesville Dam to Twp Rte 919, Clearfield County.
- Mahoning Creek from Rt. 11 downstream, Montour County.
- Marvin Creek, McKean County.
- Meadow Run, Fayette County.
- Pine Creek from Gap Street Bridge west to the waterfalls below the nursery, Schuylkill County.
- Pine Creek, N. Fork from T-628 Bridge downstream to Route 66 Bridge, Armstrong County.
- Pocono Creek, Monroe County.
- Powells Creek, Dauphin County.
- Powers Run, Elk County.
- Rocky Mountain Creek, from mouth of Carbaugh Run downstream to Conococheaugue Creek, Franklin County.
- Tobyhanna Creek, Monroe County.
- Tomit Run, on State Gamelands No. 33, from mouth upstream to Cold Stream, Centre County.
- Toms Run Pond, Forest County.
- Wykoff Run, downstream from railroad bridge to mouth, Cameron County.

Regulations:

Title 58 Recreation; Part II Fish and Boat Commission; Chapter 65 Special Fishing Regulations; Section 21: Waters limited to specific purposes—exclusive use fishing areas.

- (a) The Executive Director, with the approval of the Commission, may designate waters as being for the exclusive use of children or special populations, or both, for the purpose of fishing. The designation is effective when the waters are so posted after publication of a notice of designation in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.
- (b) As used in this section, the term “children” means persons 12 years of age or under. The term “special populations” means persons who are exempt from the fishing license requirement by section 2709(b) of the code (relating to exemptions from license requirements), persons whose visual acuity with best correcting lens is 3/60 or 10/200 or poorer in the better eye, persons whose vision is such that the widest diameter of the visual field of the better eye has contracted to such an extent that it subtends an angular distance of not greater than 20° or persons permanently deprived of the full use of a leg or both legs.
- (c) It is unlawful for a person other than a child or member of special populations to fish in a designated exclusive use area.
- (d) The Commission will not designate waters under this section:
 - (1) As being for the exclusive use of children unless the sponsor of the proposed exclusive use area agrees to be responsible for the administration and control of the area, posting signs and assisting in enforcement; the owner of the waters agrees to the designation in writing; and the political subdivision where the area is to be located approves the designation in writing. The sponsor also shall establish that the proposed exclusive area will be used year-round by showing that fishing tournaments/derbies, stocking or special events are planned throughout the year.

- (2) As being for the exclusive use of special populations unless the sponsor of the proposed exclusive use area agrees to be responsible for the administration and control of the area, posting of signs and assisting in enforcement; the owner of the waters agrees to the designation in writing; and the political subdivision where the area is to be located approves the designation in writing. The sponsor also shall describe how the proposed exclusive use area is accessible and what accommodations have been made for use by special populations. The sponsor further must certify that the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.A. § § 12210—12213) and the regulations promulgated thereunder are currently met and will be met in the future.
- (3) As being for the exclusive use of both children and special populations unless the sponsor meets the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2).
- (e) In determining whether to designate areas for the exclusive use of children, special populations or both, the Commission will consider whether the sponsors of the proposed areas have demonstrated the ability to meet the requirements of this section and whether exclusive use areas already exist within the same geographical area as the proposed areas.
- (f) If a sponsor of an exclusive use area fails to continue to meet the requirements of this section, the Commission may remove the designation of the area as being for the exclusive use of children or special populations, or both.
- (g) The provisions of subsection (a) requiring advance approval of the Commission and publication of a notice of designation in the Pennsylvania Bulletin do not apply to temporary designations of exclusive use areas for children or special populations, or both. Sponsors seeking a temporary designation of an area for the exclusive use of children or special populations, or both, shall apply for a special activities permit in accordance with § 63.40 (relating to fishing tournaments and fishing derbies). Sponsors shall apply for designation of temporary exclusive use areas no later than 30 days before the proposed designation is to take effect. The Executive Director or a designee may approve the temporary designation of waters for exclusive use for no more than 60 consecutive days upon application of project sponsors. Temporary designations shall be effective upon posting of the area. Sponsors are responsible for administering and controlling the area, posting signs and assisting in enforcement.
- (h) In designating an area for the exclusive use of children or special populations the Commission makes no representation that the areas are suitable for any particular purpose. The sponsors of the areas assume the responsibility for the suitability of the area.
- (i) Sponsors of all areas currently designated as being for the exclusive use of children or special populations, or both, shall reapply for designation by December 31, 2003.

Title 58 Recreation; Part II Fish and Boat Commission; Chapter 57 Statements of Policy; Subchapter D Administrative Policies; Section. 61 Designation of areas for the exclusive use of children and special populations.

It is the policy of the Commission to ordinarily limit designation of waters for the exclusive use of children and special populations as defined in § 65.21 (relating to waters limited to specific purposes—exclusive use areas) to specific events for limited periods of time. Sponsors who apply for new designations of exclusive use areas on a full-time or year-round basis should be advised that they bear the burden of showing why the designation is in the best interests of the fishery and the angling public.

Comments:

- Areas available exclusively to children 12 years of age and younger, and totally blind or are permanently deprived of the full use of a leg or both legs or have certain physical or mental

impairments in that they are unable to cast or retrieve a line or bait hooks or remove fish. Persons attending a person with disabilities meeting the above requirements may assist the disabled person are exempt from fishing license requirements. These restrictions apply year-round on some of the below-listed waters and only during certain times of the year on others. All areas may not suitable for all disabilities.

- Regulations are such that FBC will only set up a special population pond if the community agrees to enforce and manage it.
- FBC is not desirous of appearing to alienate and isolate fishing opportunity according to special populations.
- Youth ponds work if management has a good working relationship with enforcement entities.
- If the ponds are youth-only, ask yourself, what is the benefit of locking out the parents? Are you really providing an opportunity? If fishing is a family activity, then are youth-only ponds really helping with providing family opportunity?
- All are stocked with brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout.
- Many receive lots of pressure from kids – sometimes elbow to elbow.
- Impetus to create new ponds usually comes from sportsmen's clubs.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Pennsylvania League of Angling Youth (PLAY). Free newsletter for children 8-12.
- Fishing tackle loaner programs, sponsored by FBC.
- Fishing Skill Instructor course materials.
- Keystone Aquatic Resources Education (KARE) teacher support materials, including staff to support educational activities.
- Educational Aquatic Field Study permit.
- Educational resource catalog.

Rhode Island	8 youth-only waters	
	Department of Environmental Mgmt. Division of Fish and Wildlife 4808 Tower Hill Rd. Wakefield, RI 02879	(401) 789-0281 Christine Dudley www.state.ri.us/dem/topics/outdoor.htm#fresh

Waters:

- Cass Pond, Providence County
- Frosty Hollow Pond, Washington County
- Geneva Pond and Brook, Providence County
- Lapham Pond, Town of Burrillville, Providence County
- Lloyd Kenney Pond, Washington County
- Seidel's Pond, Providence County
- Silvy's Pond, Providence County
- Slater Park Pond, Providence County

Regulations:

Rule 6, Part 1, Section 8: The following waters shall be restricted to fishing by persons fourteen years of age and younger: Frosty Hollow Pond, Exeter; Geneva Pond and Brook, North Providence; Lapham Pond, Burrillville; Seidel's Pond, Cranston; Silvy's Pond, Cumberland; Lloyd Kenney Pond, Hopkinton; and Cass Pond, Woonsocket, and Slater Park Pond, Pawtucket. (Cass Pond and Slater Park Pond shall be restricted only for the first two days of the season, which starts the second weekend in April).

Comments:

- Stocked with rainbow trout, brook trout, and some brown trout. Stocked in March, then a couple more times in spring. Ponds have resident panfish.
- Two are on state lands, the rest on city or county lands.
- They removed one earlier because of resident concerns about too many cars for too few parking spaces.

- Ponds are heavily posted as youth-only, and Chris suggests lots of signs for any new area.
- They are always looking for new spots. The ponds are very popular, and usually the residents see them as improving the area, as a benefit.
- Most of the ponds are too small to attract much adult attention.
- Something to think about, too, is providing good access for the disabled, including docks.
- Suggests also using the youth-only areas to host special youth events, clinics, school events.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Education through Office of Communications and Media Relations

South Carolina	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries P.O. Box 167 Columbia, SC 29202	(803) 734-3888 BeBe Harrison www.dnr.state.sc.us/etc/fishing.html

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Extensive report on youth fishing “Youth and Fishing in SC.”
- “Reel Kids” program to get kids fishing. Specific goals, similar to Scout merit program. Children receive a reward for each goal accomplished. After 12 goals, receive Jr. Master Angler certificate, and their first license free.
- Fishing tackle loaner program.
- Project WET.
- Carolina Coastal Adventure.
- Junior sportsman’s license (16-17), includes Wildlife Management Areas, big game, hunting and freshwater fishing, \$16.00.

South Dakota	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Game, Fish and Parks 523 East Capitol Pierre, SD 57501	(605) 773-3485 www.state.sd.us/gfp/fishing/index.htm

Comments:

- Many kids-only ponds at the county/city level.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- The Outdoor Campus. Hands-on experiences, including fishing skills programs (fly tying, ice fishing, casting,).
- Junior Naturalist programs. Workbook-based, with incentives.
- Loaner fishing kits.
- Family programs at hatcheries.
- Junior (16-18) combination license class: \$23.00.

Tennessee	7 youth-only waters	
	Wildlife Resources Agency Fisheries Division P.O. Box 40747 Nashville, TN 37204	(615) 781-6500 Mr. Reeves www.state.tn.us/twra/fishmain.html

Waters:

- Bridgestone/Firestone Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Ponds, White and Cumberland counties
- Dudley Creek, Gatlinburg, Sevier County
- Green Cove Pond, also known as Trout Lake, Monroe County
- Laurel Hill Lake, one embayment, Lawrence County
- Leconte Creek from Painters Branch upstream to Park Boundary, Gatlinburg, Sevier County

- West Prong Little Pigeon River, Gatlinburg, Sevier County
- Whippoorwill Lake, Maury County

Regulations:

Pursuant to the authority granted by Title 70, Tennessee Code Annotated, and Sections 70-4-107 and 70-4-119 thereof, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission proclaims the following regulations, effective March 1, 2002.

Section III. Cherokee Wildlife Management Area – Special Regulations.

6. Green Cove Pond.

Fishing permitted year-round. Closed on Thursday and Friday (except when national or state holidays fall on Thursday or Friday) year-round.

- a. Fishing limited to handicapped individuals (see Section XVI), children under age 13 and adults 65 years of age and older.
- b. Tellico-Citica daily permit required year-round.
- c. Season is open year-round.
- d. Days closed – Thursday and Friday except open on all state and national holidays and scheduled special organized handicapped or children fishing events.
- e. Creel limit – 7 trout per day.
- f. Size limit – no restrictions.
- g. Hours open – one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- h. Bait restrictions – no minnows.

Section IV. Trout Fishing – Special Regulations

B. City of Gatlinburg

1. Waters open:

The taking of trout is permitted within the streams designated below and under the limits and during the times contained herein.

a. General Streams:

- West Prong Little Pigeon River from Park Boundary to Gnatty Branch except those sections set aside as Children's Streams.
- Dudley Creek from Park Boundary to West Prong Little Pigeon River, except those sections set aside as Children's Streams.
- Roaring Fork upstream to the Park Boundary.
- Leconte Creek from Painter Branch to West Prong Little Pigeon River.

b. Children's Streams (may only be fished by children 12 and under):

- Leconte Creek from Painters Branch upstream to Park Boundary.
- West Prong Little Pigeon River from 100 yards above entrance of North Gatlinburg Park downstream to Gatlinburg By-pass Bridge.
- Dudley Creek from highway 441 Bridge to West Prong Little Pigeon River.

2. Season and Creel Limits

b. Creel limits:

- General Streams – The creel limit is five (5) trout per day.
- Children's Streams – The creel limit is two (2) per day for children twelve (12) and under.

d. Daily Fees:

1. In addition to the State licensing requirement, all Tennessee Residents ages 9 through 64 must possess a special Gatlinburg daily permit. The permit fee is \$2.00; provided that a non-resident may purchase a 1-day all inclusive permit, in lieu of the normal license/permit combination for a total fee of

\$10.00. non-residents under the age of 9 are exempt from the Gatlinburg daily permit.

Section V. Wildlife Agency Lakes and Wildlife Management Areas.

C. Williamsport Public Fishing Lakes:

Whippoorwill Lake is “youth fishing” only. Only youths 16 and under and an accompanying adult may fish.

D. Laurel Hill Lake: The embayment above the road that lies between the concession building the campground is a “Youth fishing” only fishing area. Youth 16 and under may fish.

F. Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness WMA Ponds are designated as youth fishing ponds. Fishing is permitted for youths 16 years of age or younger who are accompanied by a non-fishing adult (18 years of age or older). Youths are limited to using one (1) pole or rod while fishing. The ponds will be open on Tuesdays Thursday, and Saturdays only, beginning with Tennessee’s Free Fishing Day through Labor Day.

Comments:

- Also stocked with bluegill as well as a variety of trout (rainbow, brown, brook, lake).
- Not too much of a problem with adults fishing. There are other options nearby, with more interesting fish (catfish). Officers also roam through.
- Intent is to minimize the time between catches, and keep up kids’ interest.
- Laurel Hill: youths 16 and under may fish. Also has largemouth bass, crappie, red ear sunfish, and blue catfish *Ictalurus furcatus* and channel catfish.
- Green Cove Pond: handicapped individuals, children under age 13, and adults 65 years of age and older. Closed Thursdays and Fridays in summer.
- Bridgestone/Firestone ponds: youth or younger accompanied by a non-fishing adult. Open only Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday in summers. One pole only, catch-and-release only for largemouth bass.
- Whippoorwill Lake: youths 16 and under may fish when accompanied by a non-fishing adult. 24 acres. Also has largemouth bass, red ear sunfish, and blue and channel catfish.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Family Fishing Lakes: no alcohol, houseboats, sailboats, inboard motors, water skiing, swimming. Specially-designed piers, picnic areas, concession services. Daytime fishing only.
- Junior hunting, fishing and trapping license (13-15), residents \$8.00, non-residents \$6.00 (fishing and small game only).
- Youth hunts.

Texas	No youth-only waters	
	Parks and Wildlife 4200 Smith School Rd. Austin, TX 78744	(512) 389-8196 Constance Whiston, Education Outreach Specialist (512) 389-4591 Ken Kurzawski, Inland Fisheries www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fish/fish.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Hooked on Fishing Not On Drugs program.
- Tackle loaner program in partnership with sportsmen’s clubs and organizations.
- Fish School for educators at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. K-8 curriculum.
- Reel Kids, clinics for youth to learn angling techniques.
- Junior and Master Angler program. Specific skill stations like scout merit program. Reward is master angler fish pin and certificate.
- Special Workshops and Clinics.

- Grant program to serve under-served constituents (minorities, youth, low-income, rural, women, disabled, youth-at-risk).
- Youth-only hunts.

Utah	No youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife Resources P.O. Box 146301 Salt Lake City, UT 84114	(801) 538-4774 Drew Cushing www.wildlife.utah.gov/tfish.htm

Comments:

- There is a city pond, Vivian Park Pond, that is designated as 12 and under. DOW found enforcement on this city pond to be a murky problem. Only DOW personnel are authorized to do enforcement, and their regulations don't have a special population restriction for the pond.
- Stocked with rainbow trout, albino trout *O. mykiss*, cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki*.
- Enforcement not a problem because the pond is near a good fishable stretch of the Provo River. Adults have fun fishing the river, kids, the pond.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Aquatic Resource Education Program, including Pathways to Fishing materials.
- Youth only catch-and-release pond during state fair. Clinic first, then fishing.
- Tackle loaner program.
- Urban Fishing Program: information directing anglers to urban opportunities. An urban fishing lake is one that kids can ride their bikes to. Partnership with recreation department, communities. Also offers youth fishing clubs. This program has raised so much interest, and so much community spirit that the hatcheries can barely keep up supplying fish.
- Youth hunting license.

Vermont	No youth-only waters	
	Agency of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Department 103 S. Main St., 10 South Waterbury, VT 05671	(802) 241-3727 John Hall www.anr.state.vt.us/fw/fwhome/index.htm

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Kids Fishing Events.
- Youth hunts.
- Resident youth (15-17) fishing \$8.00; non-resident youth fishing \$15.00; resident youth combination hunting and fishing \$12.00; non-resident youth combination \$30.00.
- Youth hunting licenses.

Virginia	1 youth-only water	
	Department of Game and Inland Fisheries P.O. Box 11104 Richmond, VA 23230	(804) 367-0141 Gib Rogan www.dgif.state.va.us/fishing/index.cfm

Water:

- Wilson Creek, below the dam, near Douthat Lake, Bath County

Regulations:

Virginia Administrative Code Title 4 Conservation and Natural Resources; Agency 15 Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; Chapter 320 Fin Fish: Fishing Generally; Section 120 Special daily permit for fishing in Clinch Mountain Wildlife Management Area, Douthat State Park Lake and Crooked and Wilson Creeks.

It shall be unlawful to fish in the Clinch Mountain Wildlife Management Area (except in Little Tumbling Creek and Laurel Bed Lake), in Douthat State Park Lake and in Wilson Creek both above the lake to the park boundary and downstream to the lower USFS boundary, and in the Crooked Creek fee fishing area in Carroll County without having first paid to the department for such privilege a daily use fee. Such daily use fee shall be in addition to all other license fees provided by law. Upon payment of the daily use fee the department shall issue a special permit which shall be signed and carried by the person fishing. This fee will be required from the first Saturday in April through September 30 at Clinch Mountain Wildlife Management Area (except Little Tumbling Creek and Laurel Bed Lake) and at Crooked Creek fee fishing area in Carroll County, and from the first Saturday in April through June 15 and from September 15 through October 31 at Douthat State Park Lake and Wilson Creek, except that the director may temporarily suspend fee requirements if conditions cause suspension of trout stocking. During the remainder of the year, these waters will revert to designated stocked trout waters and a trout license will be required except as provided in 4VAC15-20-190. No fishing is permitted in these waters for five days preceding the opening day. Fishing shall begin at 9 a.m. on opening day at all fee areas. After opening day, fishing times will be as posted at each fee area.

The department may recognize clearly marked "children only" fishing areas within any department fee fishing area. Within these "children only" areas, children 12 years old or less may fish without the daily use fee if accompanied by a fully licensed adult who has purchased a valid daily permit. No person over 12 years of age may fish in these children-only areas. Also, children 12 years and under can fish without a permit in the entire Douthat Fee Fishing Area if under the direct supervision of a permitted adult. However, the combined daily creel limit for both adult and child/children in such a party shall not exceed six trout. During the fee fishing season these waters will be subject to 4VAC15-330-60, 4VAC15-330-80, and 4VAC15-330-90, as it relates to designated stocked trout waters.

Statutory Authority §§29.1-501 and 29.1-502 of the Code of Virginia.

Comments:

- A State Park Lake stocked with rainbow trout, and char (*Salvelinus* family).
- Kids don't fish if the parents don't fish.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Sportfishing and Aquatic Resource Education program. Promotes environmental awareness and concern, teaches aquatic stewardship, builds self-esteem, confidence and patience, fosters communication, provides a healthy leisure activity. Workshops, community partnerships, curriculum.
- Outdoor Education.
- Community Angling Education Project. Partnerships with individuals and organizations to sponsor fishing clinics, instructor workshops, materials, planning assistance, and equipment loan.
- Special youth hunts.
- Junior license classes: junior (12-15) resident hunting \$7.50 (everything except bear, deer, turkey); junior resident bear, deer, turkey \$7.50; resident youth combo \$15.00.

Washington	44 youth-only waters	
	Department of Fish and Wildlife 600 Capitol Way N. Olympia, WA 98501	(360) 902-8313 Jeff Skriletz www.wa.gov/wdfw/fishcorn.htm

Waters:

- Bear Lake, Spokane County
- Cases Pond, Pacific County

- Cashmere Pond, Chelan County
- Coal Creek, King County
- Columbia Basin Hatchery Creek, Grant County (also disability section, and section open to licensed adults accompanied by a juvenile)
- Columbia Park Lagoon, Benton County
- Dayton Pond, Columbia County
- DeCoursey Pond, Pierce County
- Enchantment Park Ponds, Chelan County
- Fishtrap Creek, Whatcom County
- Fort Borst Park Pond, Lewis County (also licensed adults accompanied by a juvenile)
- Fortson Mill Pond #2, Snohomish County
- Garfield Juvenile Pond, Whitman County
- Goose Creek, Lincoln County
- Headgate Pond, Asotin County
- Jasmine Creek, Okanogan County
- Jefferson Park Pond, Walla Walla County
- Jennings Park Pond, Snohomish County
- Jewitt Creek, Klickitat County
- Johnson Creek, Whatcom County
- Kimball Creek, King County
- Lincoln Pond, Clallam County
- Little Klickitat River, Klickitat County
- Long's Pond, Thurston County
- Lyons Park Pond, Walla Walla County
- Mercer Creek, Kittitas County
- Mill Pond near Auburn, Kings County
- Mills Creek Pond, Grays Harbor county
- Naneum Pond, Kittias County
- Nason Creek Fish Pond, Chelan County
- Northern State Hospital Pond, Skagit County
- Old Fishing Hole Pond near Kent, King County
- Para-Juvenile Lake, Grant/Adams counties
- Pataha Creek, Garfield County
- Peabody Creek, Clallam County
- Portion of Whatcom Creek, Whatcom County
- Sarge Hubbard Park Pond, Yakima County
- Soos Creek, King County (also single-hook, and seems to be split between adult and juvenile fishing)
- South Mill Bend Pond, Pacific County
- Valley Creek, Clallam County
- Vance Creek Pond #1, Grays Harbor County (also seniors over 70 and disability)
- Wapato Lake, Pierce County
- Wilson Creek, Kittitas County
- Yakima Sportsmen's Park Ponds, Yakima County

Regulations:

Example: Washington Administrative Code Title 232 Chapter 28 Section 619 Washington food and game fish – Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules, (3) specific exceptions to statewide rules: Bear Lake (Spokane County): juveniles, holders of disability licenses, and licensed adults accompanied by a juvenile only.

Comments:

- Stocked with rainbow trout.
- Problem: adults can fish if kid is present almost turns into “Rent-A-Kid” program. Child is off playing on the swings while the adults are catching all the fish.
- Recommends taking a lot of input from the public to see what they want to see.
- Communities often request to make a water youth-only.

- Want to make the waters a safe place for single parents.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Fishin' Kids program. Punch card program similar to scout merit badges.
- Angling Education program uses volunteers to teach safe, ethical angling skills. Supply curriculum, ask for volunteers at events.
- Youth license classes: youth (15) combo freshwater, saltwater, shellfish \$5.48. Lots of youth hunting license classes.

West Virginia	10 youth-only waters	
	Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section State Capitol, Building 3, Room 812 Charleston, WV 25305	(304) 558-2771 Brett Preston www.dnr.state.wv.us/wvfishing/default.htm

Waters:

- Coonskin Park Pond, Kanawha County
- Handley Pond, Pocahontas County
- Kanawha State Forest Pond, Kanawha County
- Logan County Airport Pond, Logan County
- Millers Fork Pond, Wayne County
- Pond at YMCA Kennedy Center, Cabell County
- Raleigh County Airport Pond, Raleigh County
- Westover Park Pond, Monongalia County
- Wood Pond, Ohio County
- Woodbine area of Cranberry River, Nicholas County

Regulations:

Title 58, Series 61 Special Fishing Rule. Section 4, Special Fishing Areas for Children and Persons Possessing a Valid Class Q License.

- 4.1. The special fishing areas for children and persons possessing a valid Class Q license are open only in the following locations during the dates established in 58 C.S.R. 60:
 - 4.1.1. Handley Pond -- A 5-acre pond in Pocahontas County;
 - 4.1.2. Wood Pond -- A 1/2-acre pond on the Bear Rock Wildlife Management Area in Ohio County;
 - 4.1.3. Coonskin Park Pond -- A 2.7-acre pond on Coonskin Park in Kanawha County;
 - 4.1.4. Westover Park Pond -- A 1.0-acre pond in Monongalia County;
 - 4.1.5. Raleigh County Airport Pond -- A 1.0-acre pond at the entrance to Raleigh County Airport;
 - 4.1.6. Woodbine Area of Cranberry River -- A 300 yard long section of Cranberry River at the Woodbine Recreation Area in Nicholas County;
 - 4.1.7. Millers Fork Pond -- A 5-acre pond in Wayne County;
 - 4.1.8. Lake Underwood -- A 1.0-acre pond at YMCA Kennedy Center in Cabell County;
 - 4.1.9 Logan County Airport Pond -- A 1.0-acre pond at the Logan County Airport; and
 - 4.1.10. Kanawha State Forest Pond -- A 1.0-acre pond on the Kanawha State Forest in Kanawha County.
- 4.2. During the dates established in 58 C.S.R. 60 the areas are only open to:
 - 4.2.1. All children ten (10) years of age or under who are accompanied by another person to assist with baiting hooks and removing fish; and
 - 4.2.2. Any person who possesses a valid Class Q license in accordance with W. Va. Code 20-2-46e.
- 4.3. Fishing is restricted to daylight hours only.

Comments:

- Open to youth-only only from March through May, and open only during daylight hours.
- Four ponds are stocked with rainbow trout; the 1 flowing water is stocked with rainbow trout. The rest have some native warm water fish.
- Majority are smaller, ranging from .5 acre to 5 acre

- Not too much of a problem with enforcement, and not too much management time goes into them. They're pretty much self-regulating, and seen as a good thing. Low key, low cost.
- Majority of waters are in city- or county-owned parks.
- Also used as sites for youth-oriented events, especially during National Fishing Week.
- In the past few years, DNR has added a few, and there didn't seem to be much of a public outcry. DNR proposed, then held public meetings.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites (OWLS). Grant program so public/private schools can create outdoor learning site.
- Cooperative Projects, Research Projects grant programs
- WV Youth Environmental Program. Partnerships with organized youth groups.
- Junior sportsman Hunting/Fishing/Trapping license (15-17) \$15.00

Wisconsin	Many youth-only waters	
	Department of Natural Resources (DNR) P.O. Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707	(414) 263-8614 Matt Coffaro www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/

Waters:

- 59 waterways

Regulations:

Natural Resources Chapter 20 Fishing: Inland Waters; Outlying Waters. Section 33: Special open and closed seasons

- (2) Urban Fishing Program. The department may establish an urban fishing program by posting the open and closed seasons on specified waters. The department shall post notice on the affected waters that a special fishing season applies. The notice shall state the name or description of the water to which the special fishing season applies, the persons permitted to fish during the special fishing season and the time period of the special fishing season. The department may designate or remove a body of water in accordance with the requirements of S. 29.053(2) (a)

Comments:

- Urban fishing program. Lakes and ponds under 25 acres that are managed cooperatively with a municipality. Year round season, no length limits, special season (March 11-April 28) for juveniles 15 years of age and younger and certain disabled anglers only.
- Majority stocked with catchable rainbow trout.
- Some stocked with hybrid bluegill (bluegill X green sunfish), or yellow perch *Perca flavescens*.
- Milwaukee County House of Corrections has a fish hatchery that raises the bluegill and perch, and some catchable rainbow trout.
- Making the youth-only restriction seasonal was intended to cut down on adults yanking all the fish out of the ponds.
- Law enforcement does help keep an eye on the ponds, but adults illegally fishing is still sometimes a problem.
- The majority of the ponds are in the Milwaukee metro area.
- The urban fishing program is extremely popular, as is the youth fishing season. DNR gets many phone calls and other contacts about the program.
- The ponds are also the sites of fishing clinics, which are also extremely popular. Clinics are a joint effort by DNR and a strong, solid volunteer base from youth and fishing organizations.
- Youth may take 1 game fish, 10 panfish, and 3 rainbow trout per day.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Angler Education program. Provides youth the opportunity to master basic fishing skills, explore ecology, develop ethics. Volunteer-led. Also tackle loaner program, angler education instructors.

- EEK – Environmental Education for Kids. Electronic magazine (www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek). Reel Kids Club continual activities.
- Resident reduced fee fishing license (16-17 and 65 and older), \$7.00. Resident husband and wife fishing, \$24.00. Non-resident family fishing (husband, wife, children 16 and 17), \$52.00. Non-resident 15-day family fishing (husband, wife, children 16 and 17), \$30.00

Wyoming	6 youth-only waters	
	Game and Fish Department 5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006	(307) 733-2321 Jackson Regional Office gf.state.wy.us/HTML/fish/fishhome.htm

Waters:

- Elk Park Pond, Teton County
- Flat Creek downstream from the west boundary of the National Elk Refuge to the U.S. Highway 26/89/191 bridge on West Broadway, Teton County
- Huck Finn Pond, Albany County
- Pinedale Children's Pond, Sublette County
- Spring Creek Channel (near Cokeville) from the U.S. Highway 30 Bridge downstream to the Railroad Track bridge, Lincoln County
- Sylvan Ponds near Fremont Lake, Sublette County

Regulations:

Chapter 46 Section 18 Area 1 Exceptions to general provisions. Fishing is permitted as described in Section 1 through 16 of this Chapter except as otherwise specified in this section:

- (f) Elk Park Pond in Teton County.
 - (i) Closed to fishing from November 1 through March 31.
 - (ii) It shall be unlawful for persons fourteen (14) years of age and older to fish.

Comments:

- Majority stocked annually with catchable rainbow trout.
- Two flowing waters stocked annually with sterile cutthroat trout, so as not to interfere with native cutthroat population.
- "Kind of a headache."
- There's always someone else besides kids who want to fish them.
- By creating a special fishing area where rules are more relaxed, we're not really teaching kids to adhere to regulations.
- On the other hand, the ponds in the urban areas are popular, and we do encourage kids to go fishing rather than to get into other mischief.
- Flat Creek has access problem, with kids tromping through people's backyards.
- Have to use hatchery fish, and to stock it quite often (annually).
- Started in the 1960s, but would like to get away from them.
- Important to keep fish, it makes it more enjoyable for the kids. They have something that they're pretty proud of.
- Suggest restricting to kids only on certain days, or for certain events, such as Free Fishing Day.
- Intent is to reach out to kids who are school-aged, 6-14 years old, who are pretty much old enough to take care of themselves.

Other special outreach programs/legislation:

- Outdoor Recreation Education Opportunities (OREO). Aquatic activities, backpacking/hiking, first aid, hunter skills, mountaineering, photography, outdoor recreational transportation. Workshops.
- Resident youth (14-18) annual fishing \$3.00, non-resident youth \$15.00. Many youth hunting license classes.